

WARREN  
MAGAZINE



EERIE  
#54

FEB. 1974

SPECIAL COLOR COMICS! STARRING THE SPIRIT



\$1.00  
\$6.00  
POC

# EERIE

MURDEROUS WITCHES TRANSFORM ARTHUR LEMMING, WEREWOLF...



...INTO A  
MONSTROUS  
CREATURE  
OF THE  
NIGHT!

PLUS: THE MUMMY, HUNTER, SCHRECK AND INTRODUCING...  
DR. ARCHAEOUS! HE WAS HANGED...BUT HE LIVES AGAIN!



# A FEW WORDS AND PICTURES ABOUT OUR BRAND NEW COMIC MAGAZINE.

**THE SPIRIT** is about to haunt your newsstand.

Who, or what, is **THE SPIRIT**?

**THE SPIRIT** is a new magazine brought to you by Will Eisner and the people at Warren Publishing.



**THE SPIRIT** is Denny Colt, private eye, killed by the underworld. He's the mysterious masked champion of justice. The little man's justice. He's a stick of human dynamite in a blue business suit, with gloves that cover fists as hard as his granite tombstone in Wildwood Cemetery. He's the outlaw who secretly works with dour, pipe-puffing Police Commissioner Dolan.

**THE SPIRIT** is a comic strip like you've never seen. It's a progression of mind-boggling panels, drawn with stunning three-dimensional effects. Aerial views. Ankle views. Views through binoculars and camera lenses. Views right down the barrel of a gun. Pages and pages of panels so dynamic that your eye becomes part of each scene.

**THE SPIRIT** is a character, a comic strip, and a magazine of timeless proportions. It is totally different from anything on your newsstand today. Eight deeply moving stories grace the pages of each issue.

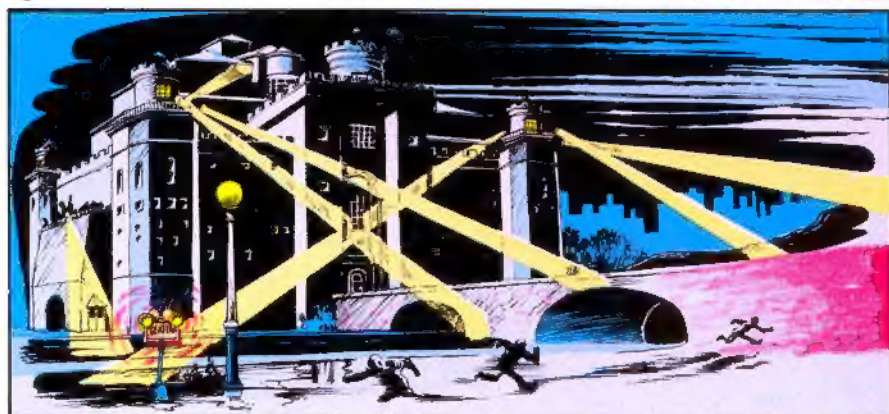
Stories of real people... not cartoon character imitations. Emotional stories. Stories of the little guy. Totally relevant to today's fast-paced, ever-changing world.

Eight pages of each mammoth issue will be in full color, rendered by the genius of comic art coloring, Richard Corben. Plus seven vintage stories in moody black and white by Will Eisner. All great stuff. All superb works of comic art. Fast paced, smart dialogue, fantastic freak shows of weird goons, crooks, fiends and victims. Brisk and breezy examples of what comic

books used to be and should be again. All carefully chosen from the golden age of **THE SPIRIT** years,

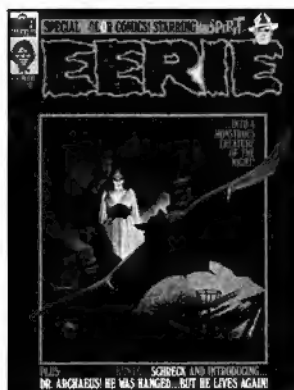


1946 to 1952. These are the 40's and 50's all over again. Who cares about the 40's and early 50's? We do. Fans do. And after seeing the first issue of Warren Publishing's **THE SPIRIT**, you'll care too. But listen.



CONTINUED ON  
INSIDE BACK COVER

# THE SPIRIT



#### OUR COVER

In search of a cure to his lycanthropic curse, Arthur Lemming becomes the willing pawn of a witch, whose particular needs involve a vampire, or a werewolf-turned-vampire, P. 17.

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**RICH CORBEN**

**WILL EISNER**

**MONES**

**PAUL NEARY**

**Writers**

**This Issue**

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**WILL EISNER**

**RICH MARGOPOULOS**

**DOUG MOENCH**

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# EERIE

®

**4 DEAR COUSIN EERIE** The controversy has snowballed since one fan's innocent request a few months back. Science-fiction fans clamor for their own magazine!

**6 THE EERIE EYE** Featuring a profile of writer Jack Butterworth, and your chance to tell us what you want from the Warren magazines. Make certain your voice is heard!

**7 AND THE MUMMY WALKS** Jerome Curry, mummy alive, finds his greatest challenge as he battles a demon controlling a town whose entire population has gone mad!

**17 CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF** The werewolf called Arthur Lemming has sought every kind of aid in hope of being normal. Now a witch promises him a cure, for a price!

**27 HUNTER: DEMON-KILLER** The demons attack anew, and it's up to Hunter to warn the people. Only, they're more interested in hanging Hunter . . . a half-demon!

**39 THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT** Will Eisner's greatest creation, *The Spirit*, comes to life again in this special preview of a new Warren magazine, colored by Corben.

**47 SCHRECK: BRIGHT EYES** They took a broken man, replaced his severed hand with a fantastic weapon, and gave him life. Now it's up to himself to stay that way!

**59 DR. ARCHAEUS: EVIL DIES** Twelve men condemned Archaeus to die on the gallows. Then one day, one of the twelve was murdered. A clear case of Archaeus-killing!

**68 THE 1973 WARREN AWARDS** Who will receive the coveted 1973 Warren Awards? Jose Gonzalez? Auraleon? Sanjulian? Neal Adams? Our fourth annual presentation.

**CONCERNING OUR MAIL ORDER ADVERTISEMENTS:** Warren Publishing Co. guarantees the delivery and satisfaction of all items advertised in this issue. Should you need to write us concerning an order, whether it be from our address or a Post Office Box address, send your letter to: E.C. Ives, Customer Service Dept., Warren Publishing Co., 145 E. 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.





## "Mummy, Werewolf, Hunter and Schreck! Wow!"

Looking back on the last four episodes of Allen Milgrom's "Curse of the Werewolf" series, I must admit that it is heads above any other werewolf saga in comics.

**DARRELL STEPHENS**  
Valparaiso, Fla.

Only one thing you need more of in EERIE: Richard Corben's phenomenal color work! Corben is today's foremost comic genius. And if he could only keep up the pace, I'd like to see him do an entire monthly magazine all by himself!

**RON GUERREIRO**  
Ontario, Canada

When are you guys going to take one of your EERIE superstars and give him his own magazine? I'd love to see a full magazine devoted to The Mummy or The Werewolf!

**GORDON LANGLIE**  
Fargo, N.D.

As of this issue, we have a new EERIE super-star, Gordon. He's THE SPIRIT! And when January 29th rolls around, you'll be able to see him in a 72-page magazine all his own. Watch for it!

I do believe you are progressing a little, Cuz. EERIE #52 was really pretty good. All except Dax the Warrior. Dax had become a very boring series. I'm glad to see that you have apparently ended it once and for all.

**WAYNE SMRKOVSKY**  
Ship Bottom, N.J.

**GARY KIMBER**  
Ontario, Canada

In the many years I have been reading EERIE, I cannot recall a story as good as "Hunter: Demon Killer." Paul Neary has done a fantastic job of drawing. And Rich Margopoulos' story is just the right mixture of horror and science fiction. I hope Hunter will be a regular feature.

**FRANK ROSS**  
Meadville, Pa.

About EERIE #53: Outta site issue! I was really astounded that you'd put out such a classic after dreadfully lagging through EERIE's #47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52.

Fathom Haunt, was an obvious classic. We've got to have more Tom Sutton stories like this one! How can we settle for less after this?

Many of your comic-serials are interesting. But only interesting. The Mummy and Werewolf can be a lot more clarified.

But Schreck. Well, that's something else again! I don't know who Vincente Alcazar is. But you had sure better hang on to him. He and Neal Adams did a bangup job on "Schreck: First Night of Terror!"

**FRED GORK**  
San Carlos, Calif.

Here's my annual list of improvement ideas. This one is directed mostly towards EERIE.

Don't use so many artists with similar styles. Jaime Brocal, Martin Salvador and Vincente Alcazar are all great artists in their own right. But each has a similar artistic style. One shouldn't follow the other in any magazine.

Cool it with the cover blurbs. The cover of EERIE #53 was too sensational looking. You had so much type, one didn't know where to read first. Limit yourself to one cover blurb per cover... the way you used to back around EERIE #41.

And what's with these EERIE series? There's too many of them. And after awhile, they'll all probably become very similar. Monster-heroes going through their paces!

Finally, why are we still paying 75¢ for a magazine with only five stories and 68 pages per issue? Just the other month, we were paying the same price for 76 pages and 6 stories?

**FRED JONES**  
Arlington, Va.

It's an unfortunate fact of the American economy, Fred, that all prices must eventually go upwards. The rising costs of type, printing, art and stories dictate that we raise the price of EERIE.

However, you'll STILL be getting six stories and 76 pages for your 75¢ for awhile yet. Regular issues of EERIE will remain as they have been for the past two years. And three times a year, at Christmas, and twice during the summer, you can expect to see a SPECIAL issue of EERIE. Eighty pages of the absolute best in comic art... eight of those pages in super-color... all for the special price of one dollar!

Science fiction in your magazines seems to be extremely controversial these days. My vote goes to eliminating sci-fi from EERIE completely. But start a new magazine devoted entirely to science fiction. Good science fiction. With either new stories by greats like Ray Bradbury, Arthur Clarke and Isaac Asimov, or some of the classics of science fiction, adapted to a comic format.

**DOUG LAUR**  
Midland, Mich.

Since you're soliciting opinions of your new series in EERIE #53, here are mine.

Hunter: For some reason I have never noticed Paul Neary's art before. Now I will have to search my back issues to see what else he has done. Every Neary panel is sheer brilliance. There is a wealth of interesting detail in everything he draws. So few artists take this much trouble. But believe me, it's appreciated.

Schreck: Interesting, if only for Vincente Alcazar and Neal Adams' artwork. Adams' work is something of a rarity these days. It's good to see him back with Warren.

Fathom Haunt: Fantastic! This story alone is worth the price of the book. If Tom Sutton's story is not reprinted in next year's annual, I will be amazed. Five stars to Tom for the absolute best thing I've ever seen him produce.

Overall rating: This is the best issue of EERIE ever. And here I thought that your series were going to make EERIE a kiddie book!

**WILLIAM DENHOLM**  
Menlo Park, Calif.

Although I've never seen Paul Neary's art before, I gather from reading your letters pages that he is not new to your magazines. His artistic style isn't exactly fresh. It looks like a blend of Jeff Jones' black and white design work combined with Esteban Maroto's compositions and Neal Adams linear quality. But what a combination!

It was Neary's art that caught my eye when I was leafing through the issue at my newsstand.

I do not buy the Warren magazines out of habit. Mostly due to your 75¢ price tag. But Neary's art alone made me buy this issue. I guess this might suggest something to you about using Paul Neary in future issues.

**BUD PAX**  
Shreveport, La.

You'll find Paul in every issue of EERIE, Bud. And on his days off, he even draws a page or so for CREEPY!



After appearing as a regular feature for twelve issues, Dax the Warrior made his final appearance in EERIE #52. Most readers were glad to see Dax go. But just about all were unanimous in their praise of writer-artist Esteban Maroto's consistently high calibre work on the series.

## "Give us more Paul Neary art!"

It is comforting to know that there is a group of sincere people... writers, artists and editors, who can cope with the realities of getting a magazine out to market, but who can still write, draw and edit psychologically important stories. It takes real knowledge and sympathy of man's predicament to create the type of stories presented in EERIE. I want to extend my thanks to all involved in the production of the Warren magazines.

**EILEEN JOHNSON**  
New York, N.Y.

Am I mad! For two reasons! First, I just read a letter printed in EERIE from Louise Clark. She claims she has seen a "disturbing tendency" on the part of your writers to place "messages" within their stories. Apparently Louise doesn't need any food for thought. Guess she gets enough of that in her Bugs Bunny comics!

Louise doesn't seem to realize that artists of all kinds (writing is an art form) are supposed to express their beliefs and their attitudes through their work. If Louise or any other EERIE reader wants straight unabashed gore, let them go to the other magazine companies publishing black and white comics. Or have them check out ninety percent of today's films.

The second reason I'm mad? You actually apologized to Louise! You said, "The idea wasn't to give a message, but to present a good story!" Tell me it was an all-night party. Tell me you did it for a laugh! Anything!

**ANTHONY DIEDRICH**  
Bronx, N.Y.

The first and foremost goal of our magazines IS to ENTERTAIN, Anthony. But while entertaining, we want to give our readers meaningful, relevant stories. If our morals and relevance detract from any story we must apologize only for our FAILURE to entertain you!

Words fail me! Without a doubt, your latest Dax saga, "Death Rides This Night" is the best story I have ever read. I hope this is not the end of my favorite hero, Dax. But you've made it quite clear that it is! If indeed Dax has left us forever, you must be congratulated on the splendid way you concluded his adventures.

I sincerely believe that the entire Dax saga... all fourteen episodes, an epic of illustrated narrative poetry, stands tall above every other piece of heroic literature today.

**HAPPY JACK**  
New York, N.Y.

Fourteen issues I've waited for this! No more Dax the Warrior in EERIE! Whoooooie!

**JEFF BARNABY**  
Medford, N.J.

Dax the Warrior, EERIE #39 to EERIE #52, fourteen issues old... DEAD! Sorry, Dax, but you had to die. You had no family ties, as does Arthur Lemming, Werewolf. Nor did you have deep feelings for others as does the blood-lusting VAMPIRELLA. You didn't even have the sense of humor of a wart-nosed Uncle Creepy! Nobody wanted to pay 75¢ to see an overly-muscled clod battle anything and everything his feeble mind thought threatened his masculinity!

But do not despair, Dax! Perhaps the powers-that-be at Warren Publishing had more in mind than killing you off. When your taut skin turns saggy and the buzzards no longer circle, maybe the Warren staff will take a new look at you. Maybe someday soon, Dax The Dead-Thing will ride again!

**RON SAPP**  
Dover, Del.

It seems to me that around this time every year, you announce your annual Warren Awards. Well, I don't know who chooses the winners for these awards, but looking back on the year 1973, I feel that I must put in my vote for the year's best.

Best EERIE story of 1973:  
"Marvin the Dead-Thing"  
Writer: Allen Milgrom  
Best EERIE series:

"Dracula"  
Artist: Tom Sutton  
Writer: Bill DuBay  
Best EERIE artist:

Jaime Brocal  
for "The Mummy" series  
Best EERIE writer:

Steve Skeates  
for "The Mummy" series  
Best new talent for 1973:

Paul Neary  
for the "Hunter" series  
Best writer/artist:

Esteban Maroto  
for "Dax the Warrior"

There you have my votes for Warren's best. I'm anxious to see just how close I came to predicting the 1973 Warren Awards.

**JEFFREY MCKAY**  
Metairie, La.

You can see EXACTLY how close you came, Jeff. The 1973 Warren Awards are announced in this issue. See page 68. The Warren Award winners are chosen by the writers and editorial staff of the three Warren comic magazines, CREEPY, EERIE and VAMPIRELLA.



A new Warren science fiction magazine? After seeing what artists Esteban Maroto, (top) Paul Neary, (left) and Ramon Torrents (right) can do with science fiction scripts, most readers seem to be in favor of the project. But who knows?

What's happened to Dracula? Your king of vampires had some good stories going. Then suddenly he just disappears from the pages of EERIE. I say bring Drac back now that Dax is out!

**KENNY KLEIN**  
Eugene, Ore.

I'm amazed at how perfectly you've developed your Mummy and Werewolf characters in the short span of just a few issues. You seem to have done a full about-face with your EERIE magazine, giving us fresh anti-hero continuing series in place of blah-horror stories. Maybe with Dax the Warrior out of the picture now, EERIE will really take off!

**JOHN BERNHARD**  
Framingham, Mass.

I would like to request the return of Marvin and the Kid Dead-Thing! And please keep Esteban Maroto on the art chores. He's perfect for the series!

**AUDREY LEE**  
Jackson, Miss.

Your wish is our command, Lee! Mister Maroto is working on a Marvin episode right now!

In the past, letters have called specific issues of EERIE great or fantastic. But with issue #53, you have surpassed any previous achievements. Werewolf, Hunter and Fathom Haunt were terrific. Even the Mummy was readable this time around.

But Schreck was sheer brilliance. Your best writer, Doug Moench, and comicdom's most fantastic artists, Vincente Alcazar and Neal Adams combined to build a fantastic story. Sheer classic proportions. Please keep Vincente and Neal on the art.

**LARRY BRNKHY**  
Merrillville, Ind.

Vincente will be handling the art chores on Schreck from here on, Larry. And as for Neal? Well, Neal's got an extra special treat coming up for you: Very Soon!

Please refrain from using stories that are continued from one issue to the next. It's often hard to find the Warren magazines on sale anywhere. If I miss just one issue with a continued series, it blows the whole storyline for me!

**FARRELL WEBBER**  
Dexter, Mo.

## EERIE'S A CREEPY LITTLE GUY! BUT LOVEABLE AS ALL HECK!

Believe it or not, old Cuz' is sensitive about all that extra weight! He'd like to hear from some sympathetic readers! Give Cousin EERIE a shoulder to cry on. Write:

DEAR COUSIN EERIE  
c/o Warren Publishing Co.  
145 East 32nd Street  
New York, N.Y. 10016



# NOW'S YOUR CHANCE! TELL US WHAT YOU LIKE AND DISLIKE ABOUT THE WARREN MAGAZINES!

We're inviting the readers of all **Warren Magazines** to answer this special questionnaire. It will take just a minute of your time, and it should be fun. And of course, we're interested in **your** opinions.

1. What made you buy this magazine?
2. How long have you been reading EERIE?
  - ☐ Less than six months.
  - ☐ Six months to a year.
  - ☐ One year to two years.
  - ☐ Two years or more.
3. How often do you buy EERIE?
  - ☐ Fanatically (9 issues a year)
  - ☐ Frequently (5-8 issues a year)
  - ☐ Seldom (1-4 issues a year)
  - ☐ This is my first issue.
  - ☐ I have a subscription.
4. What other magazines do you read regularly?
5. Why do you buy EERIE (Check one or more)
  - ☐ Because I generally like the magazine.
  - ☐ Because I like the EERIE series!
  - ☐ I buy an issue because of its cover.
  - ☐ I buy an issue because I see something of interest in the stories.
  - ☐ I buy an issue because of the artists featured.
  - ☐ I buy an issue because of the writers featured.
  - ☐ I buy an issue because of the characters featured.
  - ☐ I am a comic book freak!
6. What is your general impression of this magazine?
  - ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor
7. Which story appearing in this issue did you like **most**?
8. Why?
9. Which story in this issue did you like the **least**?
10. Why?
11. What do you look forward to most in EERIE each month?
12. If you could **eliminate** any section of this magazine, what would it be?
13. If you could **add** a section or a feature to this magazine, what would it be?
14. Who are your favorite comic book artists?
15. Who are your favorite comic book writers?
16. For each of the **series features** listed below, check whether you would like to see more, less or the same in future issues.
 

	More	Less	Same
Mummy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Werewolf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dracula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dax the Warrior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hunter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shreck	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fathom Haunt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marvin, Dead Thing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Would you prefer to see more, less or the same number of **continuing character series** in EERIE?
  - More ☐ Less ☐ Same ☐
18. What type of **series or series character** would you like to see in EERIE?
19. Should EERIE revert back to its old format of all horror stories and **NO series**?
  - ☐ YES! ☐ NO!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and mail this questionnaire to:

All replies received before February 7, 1974 will be acknowledged personally. Thank you.  
**W.B. DuBay**

**EERIE MAGAZINE**  
 Warren Publishing Co.  
 145 E. 32nd Street  
 New York, N.Y. 10016

# EERIE EYE

## HEREWITH, THE AMAZING STORY OF **JACK BUTTERWORTH** A WRITER WHO'S WORTH HIS SALT



Now for my contribution. I was born in 1941 and grew up in Belmont, Mass. My first contact with comics was with the pre-code ECs, which I found delightful, and well worth the trouble to hide from my parents.

In college during the 1960s I rediscovered super-heroes. They weren't ECs but they were fun. Instead of hiding them I passed them around my fraternity house, where they became an instant fad, and the cause of much hilarity. People I knew suggested I write for comics. That's taking a joke too far!

**My** wife, Karin, who is an artist, offered to help me with this profile. She said to write something glowing... and sign her name, to avoid embarrassment.

**Karin** did jot down some random tidbits: I'm a chronic mutterer, pacing the floor and talking to myself in the wee hours of the morning; I have a warped sense of humor; and I'm cuddly to sleep with... even though I snore a lot.

**My son, J.W.,** who is two years old, can't write much about me because he is illiterate: a shameful condition that has persisted since he was born. Judging from outward signs, I'd say he's spending his days now plotting to run away with a fluffy cat... any old cat, in our Beverly, Massachusetts neighborhood.

**CREEPY** came out while I was in the Marines and the artwork immediately attracted me. I made a mental bet with myself that the magazine wouldn't last. Fortunately, pessimism has a way of letting us up.

After military service, I drifted into newspaper reporting, a good field for a cynical EC fan, and two years ago I began writing for **Warren**. And here I am.

Karin says the only way to get a true picture of me is to live with me. But since it isn't possible to fit all **Warren's** readers into our modest home, I hope this profile will provide you with the essentials.



"Spare That Tree," another Jack Butterworth chiller, is the showcase of **CREEPY** #59. Rich Corben and Ramon Torrents will be in that issue too... that is, if we can find the **ROOM!**



HE **SLEEPS**. HE DOES NOT HEAR THE FOOTFALLS AS SOMEONE CLIMBS DOWN THE **FREIGHT CAR** LADDER. HE DOES NOT HEAR THE SQUEAL OF RUSTED METAL AS THE DOOR IS PUSHED WIDER, **OPEN**.

THERE HAS BEEN SEEMINGLY ENDLESS **RUNNING**, HEAVY THINKING AND AN AWESOME BATTLE AGAINST AN AWESOME CREATURE. HE SLEEPS SOUNDLY. HE DOES NOT FEEL THE **FINGERS** AS THEY REACH OUT AND **JAB** INTO HIM...



OKAY, YOU! WAKE UP!

YOU'RE GETTING OFF THIS TRAIN NOW!

BUT WHEN THIS MAN POKES HIM A **SECOND** TIME...



I SAID WAKE UP!

EH?



HE **LEAPS UP** THEN, READY TO **PROTECT** HIMSELF... TO BE READY FOR BATTLE IS NEARLY AN INSTINCT NOW... AND THE MAN **CRINGES** IN SILENT HORROR AS HE LOOKS UPON THE CREATURE'S **FACE**...

...**CRINGES**, AND THEN, IN FOOLISH PANIC... **STRIKES!**



THIS INCREDIBLE, **MUMMIFIED BEAST**... THIS THING OF INCREDIBLE **POWER**... MEETS HIM HALF-WAY, THROWING HIS ENTIRE WEIGHT **INTO** HIM... SEEKING TO **SMASH** THIS NEW OPPONENT **SENSELESS** UP AGAINST THE **FREIGHT CAR** WALL...



BUT, IN THE INSTANT THAT THEY MEET, THE MAN **SHIFTS** HIS WEIGHT JUST ENOUGH... CAUSING THE TWO OF THEM TO FLY INSTEAD OUT THE DOOR, **TUMBLING OFF** THE **SPEEDING TRAIN**...

# AND THE MUMMY WALKS



BUT STILL,  
HE DID HIS  
JOB!  
THERE'S NO  
WAY I'M GOING  
TO GET BACK ON  
THAT TRAIN!  
IF I TRIED,  
I'D PROBABLY  
TEAR BOTH MY  
ARMS OFF!



BUT NO! THERE'S GOT TO  
BE A TOWN AROUND HERE SOME-  
PLACE...! A COMMUNITY WHERE  
I CAN GET MYSELF SOME  
MODE OF TRANSPORTATION!  
THERE'S A DESTINATION  
I MUST REACH... AS SOON  
AS POSSIBLE!

HE SEARCHES THEN, SHAMBLING  
UP AND DOWN AND AROUND  
THESE GREEN HILLS OF RURAL  
MASSACHUSETTS... UNTIL  
FINALLY...



STRANGE... THE WAY THEY'RE  
BUILDING THOSE  
HUGE PILES OF SOME SORT OF PLANT  
... AND SETTING THE PILES  
AFLAME!

IT'S LIKE A HUGE CLOUD!  
THE WHOLE TOWN IS  
FILLED WITH SMOKE!

BUT  
WHY?

# STRANGER IN A VILLAGE OF THE INSANE!





COULD BE IT'S  
A **MYSTICAL**  
RITE OF SOME  
SORT!

BURNING OF LEAVES  
IS OFTEN CON-  
NECTED WITH  
**MYSTICISM!**

NOT THAT  
IT REALLY  
MATTERS  
**WHAT IT**  
IS!



I'VE GOT MORE  
**IMPORTANT**  
THINGS TO  
CONSIDER!

ONLY GOING TO BE  
IN THAT TOWN LONG  
ENOUGH TO FIND SOME  
**MEANS OF TRAVEL!**

HMM...THIS SMOKE  
HAS SORT OF A **SWEET**  
SMELL TO IT!



BUT SO WHAT?  
I'VE STILL GOT TO  
GET **DOWN THERE...**  
SO THAT I CAN  
CONTINUE ALONG  
MY WAY...

HUNH? SOMETHING'S  
HAPPENING TO ME! TO  
MY MIND! CAN'T SEEM  
TO... **THINK**  
**STRAIGHT!**  
I'M...



HE **STOPS...** PUZZLED... CON-  
FUSED... TURNING AND LOOKING  
AT EVERYTHING THAT IS ABOUT  
HIM. MOMENTARILY, ALL THOUGHTS  
OF **PUSHING ON** ARE GONE.  
THE SCENARIO SEEMS SO **LUSH.**  
THE COLORS SO STRANGELY  
**BRIGHT.**



THEN COMMENTS FROM THE **OTHER MIND** THAT INHABITS THIS STRANGE  
AND CUMBERSOME BODY...THE ANCIENT, **ORIGINAL MIND**...CUT THROUGH THE  
SIGHT-SEEING, DESTROYING THIS PLEASANT MOMENT OF ESCAPE FROM THE  
SELF, AS **JEROME CURRY'S** THOUGHTS ARE FORCED TO AGAIN TURN **INWARD.**



STILL SOMETHING HAS CHANGED. THE OTHER MIND IS NOW NO LONGER A SEPARATE AND DISTANT ENTITY... A THING THAT FIGHTS FOR CONTROL OF THE BODY. NOW, ITS THOUGHTS AND HIS THOUGHTS COME CALMLY TOGETHER, PEACEFULLY MINGLE AND JOIN.

AND JEROME CURRY REMEMBERS A LIFE IN ANCIENT EGYPT. MOMENTARY MEMORIES OF ABSOLUTE DOMINION. ALL OTHERS WERE BENEATH HIM... WORTHLESS SLAVES, PROPERTY, INSECTS TO BE USED OR SQUASHED. YET NOW POWER, STRANGELY DOES NOT SEEM IMPORTANT. AND HE, IT, THEY CONCENTRATE ON OTHER MEMORIES... MEMORIES OF COMPANIONSHIP AND PLEASURE.

SUDDENLY, HE IS IN THE CENTER OF THE TOWN. PEOPLE DANCING. PEOPLE STARING AT CLOUDS, WHILE OTHERS EMBRACE IN DOORWAYS.



HE DOES NOT FEEL SEPARATE FROM THESE PEOPLE EITHER... DOES NOT FEEL HE MUST DEMONSTRATE HIS SUPERIORITY TO THEM THROUGH POWER AND FORCE. ONE CANNOT OVERPOWER ONESELF... AND THESE PEOPLE ARE AN EXTENSION OF HIM. THEY ARE A PART OF HIM, AND HE IS A PART OF THEM!

THEY ARE ALL ONE.





A YOUNG WOMAN OF THIS TOWN **SMILES** AS SHE APPROACHES THIS STRANGER. AND HE DOES NOT BACK AWAY.



HE DOES NOT TRY TO STOP HER AS SHE **OPENS HIS COAT**, UNBUTTONS HIS **SHIRT...**

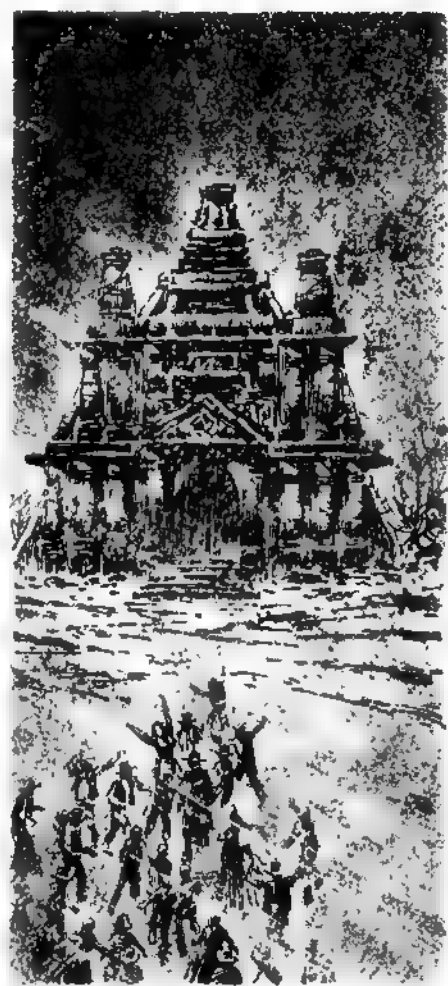


**...THEN REELS BACK!** AN INSTANT OF CONFUSED SHOCK AS SHE SEES THE **ROTTING BANDAGES.**



A MOMENT OF **DISAPPOINTMENT** FOR HIM...!

...BUT THE SHOCK IS SOON **FORGOTTEN** AS HER MIND DRIFTS ONTO OTHER THINGS. AND SOON HIS **DISAPPOINTMENT** ALSO **FADES.**



AS THEY ENTER  
THIS STRANGE  
STONE BUILDING  
THAT SEEMS SO  
OUT OF PLACE  
HERE IN RURAL  
MASSACHUSETTS,  
THE PEOPLE'S  
ATTITUDES SEEM  
TO CHANGE...  
THEIR GRIPS  
TIGHTEN... AND A  
HUGE SHADOW  
FALLS OVER THE  
HULKING  
MUMMY...

WHAT'S  
HAPPENING?  
WHY ARE...



WHAT  
IS IT?

HOW COULD  
THAT THING  
CAST A SHADOW?  
DOESN'T EVEN  
LOOK LIKE IT'S  
REALLY THERE!

WH-  
WHA...?

GONE IS THE  
GAIETY...

PEOPLE...  
BACKING  
AWAY...  
MOVING  
FAST...  
LEAVING  
ME  
HERE!

GONE ARE THE  
PLEASANT  
THOUGHTS...

IT'S LIKE  
THEY'RE LEAVING  
ME SO THAT *THIS*  
THING CAN DEAL  
WITH ME! LIKE I'M  
TO BE A HUMAN  
SACRIFICE, OR  
SOMETHING!

BUT, IF  
THEY THINK  
I'M...



YOWP!



LOOKS LIKE I WAS RIGHT  
ABOUT THE MYSTICISM!

THIS BEING APPEARS TO  
BE SOME SORT OF DEMON  
CALLED UP FROM HELL!

BUT NOBODY  
GETS THE BEST  
OF ME!



PERHAPS IT WOULD HAVE BEEN  
BEST TO SIMPLY TURN AND RUN...  
BUT THERE ARE TWO MINDS  
CONTROLLING THIS BODY.  
SEPARATE ENTITIES!

AND THE ANCIENT  
EGYPTIAN MIND  
IS RULED BY ITS  
KNOWLEDGE OF  
POWER... ITS  
BELIEF IN  
FORCE...

LOOK AT THOSE  
PEOPLE... JUST  
WATCHING THIS!

THEY SEEM TO BE  
ENJOYING IT!

TO RULE... TO  
BE SUPREME.  
THIS LONG AGO  
BECAME ITS  
ENTIRE  
REASON FOR  
BEING...

WELL, I'LL  
GIVE THEM A  
SHOW THEY  
WON'T SOON  
FORGET!



SUPREMACY OVER ALL THINGS! NO JEROME HAS GIVEN  
IN ONCE AGAIN TO THE DESIRES OF THE OTHER MIND!

TWO MASSIVE CREATURES OF SEEMINGLY EQUAL STRENGTH, SMASHING, THRASHING, ANOTHER MOST VULNERABLE VICTIM IS THEIR ARENA ITSELF! PILLARS ARE REDUCED TO RUBBLE... WALLS ARE SHAKEN AGAIN AND AGAIN... UNTIL FINALLY THE CEILING LOOSENS...



...AND FALLS! THE BOMBASTIC BATTLE CONTINUING UNDAUNTED, EVEN AS THE ON-LOOKERS... THE MEMBERS OF THIS ONCE SEMI-CONSCIOUS AUDIENCE... SCREAM TO LIFE AND RACE FOR THE EXITS!



HUGE CHUNKS OF SOLID ROCK TUMBLE DOWNWARD... AND NOT ONE OF THE PEOPLE IS QUITE FAST ENOUGH TO AVOID THIS DEADLY RAIN...



THROUGHOUT THE WORLD CLOCKS AND WATCHES TICK OFF THE *TIME!*  
SECONDS HAVE A WAY OF GROWING INTO MINUTES.

YET, IS THE PASSAGE OF TIME NOW OF ANY IMPORTANCE? HERE, IS  
THERE TIME? IS THERE *SOUND?* IS THERE *COLOR?*

IF NO ONE WERE AROUND TO HEAR IT, WOULD A TREE MAKE A NOISE WHEN IT  
FELL? OR, PERHAPS, ARE THE PARTICLES OF DUST THAT STILL SWIM IN THE  
AIR ABOUT THE REMAINS OF THIS ONCE PROUD EDIFICE, WHILE PERHAPS  
*CRIMSON STREAMS* TRICKLE OUT FROM BETWEEN THE CHUNKS OF  
STONE.

AND, IN THE DISTANCE, PERHAPS BIRDS NOW BEGIN AGAIN TO SING. THESE  
COULD BE THE ANSWERS, AND YET THERE ARE NOW *NO REAL QUESTIONS!*  
FOR THERE IS *NO ONE* HERE TO ASK THEM.

*NO ONE LIVES!*  
*NO ONE SURVIVED!*



*BUT THERE IS MOVEMENT  
AMONGST THE RUBBLE!*



*THIS BEING WHO REKS OF  
DEATH AND DECAY... HE  
ALONE STILL LIVES!*

I'LL BET **EVERYONE**  
**IN TOWN** WAS IN THERE  
WHEN THE BUILDING  
**COLLAPSED.**

DON'T  
KNOW WHY I SURVIVED AND  
THAT **DEMON** DIDN'T!  
DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I  
WAS TO BE A **SACRIFICE...**  
OR **WHAT!**

BUT, WHO  
CARES NOW?



I **ACHE** ALL OVER, AND  
CAN **HARDLY MOVE!** BUT  
**NOTHING** HAS CHANGED...  
I'VE STILL --

**NO!**  
**WAIT!**



HE STANDS IN STIFF  
SILENCE FOR SEVERAL  
MINUTES...



THEN...

THE **OTHER MIND...**  
I CAN **NO LONGER**  
FEEL ITS **PRESENCE**  
-- IT...

... SOMEHOW, IT MUST  
HAVE BEEN **KILLED** IN  
MY BATTLE WITH  
THE **DEMON!**



BUT MY MIND  
SEEMS ALL RIGHT!

AND I'D BEST GET  
**MOVING AGAIN.** WON'T  
BE HARD TO "**BORROW**"  
SOME **NEW CLOTHES**  
AND SOME MEANS OF  
**TRANSPORTATION...** NOW  
THAT **EVERYONE'S DEAD!**



**EVERYONE?** NO,  
THERE IS ONE  
WHO WAS NOT IN  
THE BUILDING  
WHEN IT FELL.  
AND AS THE  
WEED **BONFIRES** NOW  
DIE DOWN TO  
MERE PILES OF  
SMOLDERING  
ASHES, THIS  
YOUNG WOMAN  
WATCHES FROM  
THE SHADOWS,  
CURIOUS ABOUT  
THIS STRANGE  
**CREATURE**  
WHO NOW  
**DEPARTS...**

HE MUST BE  
**FANTASTICALLY STRONG**  
TO HAVE DEFEATED THE  
**DEMON!**

I MUST FIND OUT  
**MORE ABOUT THIS**  
**CREATURE!**



**NEXT: ARTHUR LEAVING!**

# TO CURE THIS CURSE!

JUST BEFORE DAWN HE COMES UPON AN **UNHOLY CONCLAVE... A WITCHES' COVEN** PERFORMING ITS BLASPHEMOUS RITES HERE IN THIS DENSE WOOD! WITHOUT THOUGHT HE **RUSHES** OUT FROM AMONG THE TREES AND DOWN THE SHALLOW INCLINE TOWARD THE GATHERING...



...SLOBBERING... SNARLING **MAD!**  
CURSED THIS NIGHT WITH **BLOOD-LUST...** CURSED WITH **LYCANTHROPY...**

# CURSE OF THE WEREWOLF

BEFORE THE **FULL MOON** ROSE THIS NIGHT, HE WAS A MAN! HE WAS **ARTHUR LEMMING...**

...NOW, HE IS BUT A MINDLESS **THING...** A THING THAT RIPS AND TEARS AND **KILLS** WITHOUT REASON... WITHOUT THOUGHT...





...BUT EVEN AS HE CONTINUES HIS  
MERCILESS **SLAUGHTER**...



...BEHIND HIM, THE MOON **SETS**...



...AND SOON THE BLAZING **SUN**  
PEERS OVER THE HORIZON, TO  
BEGIN ITS UPWARD CLIMB...



...FREEING HIM...



...FOR THE **MOMENT**...



...FROM HIS HORRENDOUS  
**CURSE**...



A **WITCHES' COVEN**! SO...  
THAT'S WHERE MY CURSE HAS  
**BROUGHT ME**  
THIS NIGHT!

HMMM... THIS MAY  
JUST BE A BIT OF  
**GOOD FORTUNE**!  
PERHAPS FINALLY  
MY LUCK IS TURNING  
**GOOD**!



THERE MUST BE SOME **MYSTICAL** WAY TO  
**FREE** MYSELF FROM THIS CURSE! AND WHO  
WOULD KNOW BETTER HOW TO DO IT THAN  
A MEMBER OF A **WITCHES' COVEN**?

**YOU'RE**  
GOING TO **HELP**  
ME, OLD MAN!  
OR ELSE  
**YOU'RE**  
**FINISHED**!



I MAY BE A **MAN** NOW, BUT I'LL KILL YOU **NONETHELESS**... UNLESS YOU HELP ME TO BECOME A **TRUE MAN**... A **FREE MAN** ONCE AGAIN!

YES... YES...  
I'LL HELP...

HE IS A **PATHETIC** LITTLE MAN, THIS ONE REMAINING MEMBER OF THE COVEN! AND A SIMPLE WELL-WORDED **THREAT** IS ENOUGH TO FORCE HIM INTO ACTION...

THERE **IS** A WAY!  
IT SHALL BE A **SIMPLE** TASK TO SIMPLY TRANSFER YOUR CURSE ONTO **SOMEONE ELSE!**

**SOMEONE ELSE!?**  
**NO! NO!** THAT'S **IM-POSSIBLE!** I COULD NOT LIVE WITH MYSELF, KNOWING I HAD PUT THIS HORROR UPON **SOMEONE ELSE!**

DO NOT  
**WORRY!**

THE ONE WE TRANSFER IT ONTO NEED NOT BE **LIVING!**

THE SPELL WILL WORK JUST AS WELL ON A **DEAD MAN!**

A  
**DEAD**  
MAN?

**COME!** THERE ARE **OTHERS** IN THE NEAR-BY VILLAGE WHO ARE SYMPATHETIC WITH THE **BLACK ARTS!** THEY SHALL **HELP US!**

**VERY WELL!** BUT I'M **WARNING** YOU... **NO TRICKS!**

WE'D BETTER **HURRY!** I **MUST** BE CURED BEFORE THE MOON RISES! I CAN NOT GO **THROUGH** THIS AGAIN! NOT **AGAIN!**

**WORRY NOT!** IT SHALL BE DONE IN **TIME!**

BUT ARTHUR LEMMING DOES NOT NOTICE THE **PATHETIC** LITTLE MYSTIC SUPPRESSING A FLIGHT **GIGGLE** AS THEY HEAD TOWARD THE VILLAGE...

AN UNEVENTFUL  
TRIP TO THE  
VILLAGE... THEN,  
THEY RETURN  
WITH **OTHERS**  
TO THE SCENE  
OF THE RECENT  
**SLAUGHTER...**  
TO **MYSTICAL**  
**GROUND...**

YOU STILL HAVEN'T  
TOLD ME WHAT IS IN  
THE **BOX.**

I DEMAND TO  
... **KNOW!**

IT IS THE  
**DEPARTED ONE**  
ONTO WHOM WE  
SHALL TRANSFER  
YOUR CURSE!

**HERE!**  
LOOK UPON  
HIM!

WHA...?  
A... A  
**MUMMY!**

I DON'T  
**UNDERSTAND**  
**WHY...**

THE REASON IS QUITE **SIMPLE!**  
IT IS FAR **EASIER** TO  
TRANSFER A CURSE ONTO SOME-  
ONE WHO HAS **ALREADY**  
BEEN CURSED!

AND THIS MAN  
HAD A CURSE  
PUT UPON HIM  
**THOUSANDS**  
**OF YEARS**  
**AGO!**

BUT... WHERE  
DID HE **COME**  
FROM... HOW  
DID YOU GET  
YOUR **HANDS**  
ON HIM?

WHY SHOULD  
THAT MATTER  
TO YOU?  
JUST AS LONG  
AS WE CAN  
**CURE YOU!**

**COME!** IT IS  
TIME TO **BEGIN!**

AND SO IT IS THAT  
ARTHUR LEMMING  
LIES UPON AN EVIL  
**ALTAR!** LIES NEXT  
TO THE ROTTING,  
BANDAGED BODY  
OF MAN LONG  
**DEAD...** WHILE THE  
OTHERS GROUP  
ABOUT, UTTERING  
**CACOPHONOUS**  
**INCANTATIONS**  
IN MONOTONOUS  
TONES...



---

**ALWAYS LEAVE THEM LAUGHING WHEN YOU SAY GOOD BYE!**

**HA HA HA**

**HA HA HA**

**HA HA HA**

**HA HA HA**

**HA HA HA**

**HA HA HA**

**HE THOUGHT WE WOULD ONLY GIVE THE MUMMY HIS CURSE.**

**BUT WE TRANSFERRED HIS ENTIRE MIND INTO THAT DEAD BODY.**

**HE HAS TRULY PAID FOR WHAT HE DID TO THE COVEN.'**

HE THOUGHT  
WE WOULD ONLY  
GIVE THE MUMMY  
HIS **CURSE.**

BUT WE  
TRANSFERRED HIS  
ENTIRE MIND  
INTO THAT DEAD  
BODY!

HE HAS TRULY  
PAID FOR WHAT  
HE DID TO THE  
COVEN.

YES, LAUGH, YOU PRACTITIONERS OF THE **BLACK ARTS...**  
LAUGH, CHUCKLE, CHORTLE, CROW AND CACKLE, WHILE  
YOU **CAN...**

**MOST LIKELY  
HE'S DEAD!**

**BUT EVEN IF HIS MIND STILL LIVES, WHAT GOOD CAN IT DO HIM IN THIS BODY!?! HE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD!**

BUT SUDDENLY A TIDAL WAVE OF INCREDIBLE **SHOCK**  
CRASH-POUNDS OVER THE MULTITUDE...PUTTING A  
**STOP** TO THE LAUGHTER, / NO LONGER DO THEY  
GIGGLE, SNIGGER, SNICKER AND TITTER AS THEY  
HOLD THEIR SIDES...

**GOOD  
GOD.  
LOOK.**

"HE WHO LAUGHS  
***LAST, LAUGHS  
BEST.***" AND IN  
TRUTH, THE JOKE  
FINALLY IS ON  
***THEM, AS YOU,***  
ARTHUR  
LEMMING, FORCE  
THIS DECAYING,  
ROTTING  
BANDAGED  
BODY... TO  
***FUNCTION!***

YOU STRAIN FOR **CONTROL** AS  
YOUR INSIDES PRESS TO **RETCH!**  
YOU STARE DOWN IN DISBELIEF AT  
THE PUTRID PRISON OF MOUTING  
**SANDAGES...**



THEN YOU FEEL ANOTHER,  
MORE FAMILIAR **SENSATION!**  
AS FAMILIAR AS THE **HORROR**  
IT EVOKES? YOU TELL  
YOURSELF IT **CAN'T** HAPPEN!  
YET YOU ASK HOW FATE COULD  
RESIST SUCH A **JOKE.**



YOU SCREAM... BUT IT DOESN'T  
HELP!



TONIGHT... THERE'S A **BAD MOON** ON THE RISE!  
AND THE **CURSE** IS STILL WITH YOU.



**ANGER... IT WELLS UP WITHIN YOU LIKE A MAMMOTH LIVING THING... AND AGAIN YOU SEEK TO RIP, TO TEAR, AND TO KILL WITHOUT MERCY...!**



**YOU ARE A RAMPAGING ANIMAL ONCE AGAIN...**

**ANGER, WRATH, IRE, TEARING RAGE... TO KILL ALL OF THOSE THAT PLAYED THIS HIDEOUS HOAX UPON YOU...**



**AND THE SMALL BIT OF HUMANITY THAT IS STILL WITH YOU COULD NOT POSSIBLY STOP YOU FROM DOING WHAT YOU ARE DOING... EVEN IF IT WANTED TO!**



**ANGER... BESTIAL RAGE TAKING CONTROL, THOUGH A BIT OF YOU KNOWS THAT IT WILL DO NO GOOD...!**



**IT WILL NOT END THE CURSE! PERHAPS NOTHING WILL EVER END THE CURSE. AND NOW YOU ARE DOUBLY CURSED... BY THIS ROTTING, ACHING BODY THAT NOW IS YOURS AS WELL!**

**N-NO! PLEASE! ST-STAY AWAY!**



ONCE, YOU COULD CHAT WHILE RELAXING IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME...!



ONCE, YOU WERE A FATHER WHO READ TO YOUR DAUGHTER BEFORE TUCKING HER IN FOR THE NIGHT...!



YES, ONCE THERE WAS HAPPINESS AND JOY IN YOUR LIFE...!



BUT THAT WAS SO LONG AGO...! IT ALMOST SEEMS LIKE A DREAM!

YOUR FAMILY HAS BEEN LOST, LOST FOREVER! AND HERE THERE IS ONLY BURNING, SEARING, STALKING ANGER...

P-PLEASE!

I CAN ST- STILL HELP YOU!

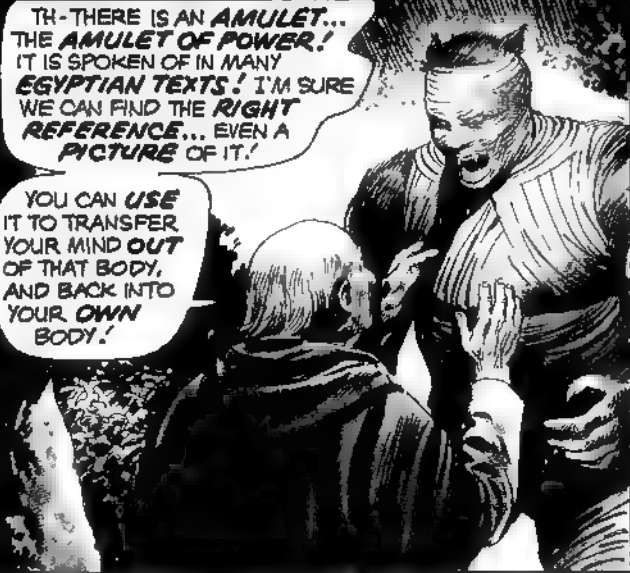
HELP YOU ESCAPE FROM THAT BODY!



WHAT IS IT THAT NOW MAKES YOU STOP AND LISTEN? HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY TRUST THIS MAN?

TH- THERE IS AN AMULET... THE AMULET OF POWER! IT IS SPOKEN OF IN MANY EGYPTIAN TEXTS! I'M SURE WE CAN FIND THE RIGHT REFERENCE... EVEN A PICTURE OF IT!

YOU CAN USE IT TO TRANSFER YOUR MIND OUT OF THAT BODY, AND BACK INTO YOUR OWN BODY!



BUT YOU DO STOP! AND YOU DO LISTEN!

I'VE HEARD REPORTS THAT THE AMULET IS IN AMERICA SOMEWHERE!

WE CAN GET HOLD OF IT... I'M SURE WE CAN! AND THEN I'LL HELP YOU TO BECOME YOURSELF AGAIN!



MOMENTARILY, YOU TURN TO LOOK UPON WHAT **ONCE** WAS **ARTHUR LEMMING...**

**Y-YOUR OWN BODY!** DO NOT **WORRY!**

THERE IS A **MYSTICAL AURA** ABOUT IT! IT MAY NOT TRULY BE **ALIVE!** BUT IT WILL NOT **ROT OR DECOMPOSE...**

...NOT AS LONG AS YOUR **MIND** LIVES ON...

THAT'S **ALL** YOU WANTED TO KNOW!

**HUNH? WH - WHAT**  
**ARE YOU DOING??**  
YOU C...

**NO!**  
**NO!**

**NO!** PLEASE!  
I'M...  
**UNNNNGHHHHH...**

**UNNNNGHHHH...**  
**GLURP...**

**SNAP!**

THE EPISODE **ENDS...** AND YOU ARE CLOSER THAN EVER TO **ABSOLUTE BABBLING INSANITY!**

IT IS NO LONGER SIMPLY YOUR **BESTIAL** SIDE YOU MUST CONTEND WITH... IT IS NO LONGER JUST A **CURSE** THAT COMES ONLY WITH THE **FULL MOON!**

FOR WHEN THE MOON SINKS BENEATH THE HORIZON, YOU WILL **NOT** BE **ARTHUR LEMMING!**

...PERHAPS YOU WILL **NEVER** BE **ARTHUR LEMMING** AGAIN!





THINGS HAVEN'T **CHANGED** MUCH!

WHITE MEN **USED** TO LYNCH  
BLACK MEN 'CAUSE THEY WERE  
**DIFFERENT**... 'CAUSE MAYBE  
THEY STEPPED OUT OF "**THEIR**  
**PLACE**"! THE REASON DIDN'T  
MATTER MUCH. ONE NEVER NEEDED  
AN **EXCUSE** TO HANG A **BLACK**!

BUT SINCE THE **BIG WAR**... THE  
WAR THAT TURNED HALF THE  
HUMAN RACE INTO **MONSTERS**...  
WHITES AND BLACKS HAVE Banded  
**TOGETHER**!

THERE ARE **NO** BLACK **LYNCHINGS**  
NOW!

PLEASE  
DADDY! DON'T  
HANG 'IM!

NOWADAYS,  
THEY ONLY HANG  
**MONSTERS**!

THEY CALLED HIM A DEMON!

BUT HIS NAME IS HUNTER!

AND IN TRUTH,  
HE IS ONLY  
HALF-DEMON!

A HALF-BREED  
SOLDIER WHOSE  
HATE FOR DEMONS  
IS EXCEEDED BY  
NO MAN'S!

BUT A HALF-BREED  
WHO STEPPED OUT  
OF HIS "PLACE" ONLY  
A FEW SHORT HOURS  
AGO..!

HE WAS TRACKING A DEMONS' TRAIL  
UNTIL HUNGER AND THIRST FORCED  
HIM TO SEEK OUT THE FRONTIER TOWN.

A CRUMBLING CITY THAT WAS  
A BOMBED-OUT MOCKERY OF  
ITS FORMER SELF!

AS A RULE, HE TENDED TO AVOID SUCH HUMAN HABITATION!  
YET THE SCENT OF FOOD UNMERCIFULLY DROVE HIM ON!

THE SMELL OF COOKING EMANATED FROM A STRUCTURE  
LESS DECREPIT THAN THE REST...AND IN A RINGING  
VOICE THE DEMON-MAN LOUDLY PROCLAIMED...

CODE  
THREE!

BY THE PRESIDENT'S  
LAST EXECUTIVE ORDER,  
I DEMAND SHELTER IN  
THIS HOUSE!

YUH'VE GOT  
YORE NERVE,  
SOLDIER! THERE  
AIN'T NO MORE  
CODE...THERE  
AIN'T NO MORE  
ARMY...

AN' FOR  
THAT MATTER,  
THERE AIN'T  
NO MORE  
U.S.O.F.A.!

THAT WAS  
DEFINITELY THE  
WRONG  
ANSWER TO  
GIVE!

SLAM!

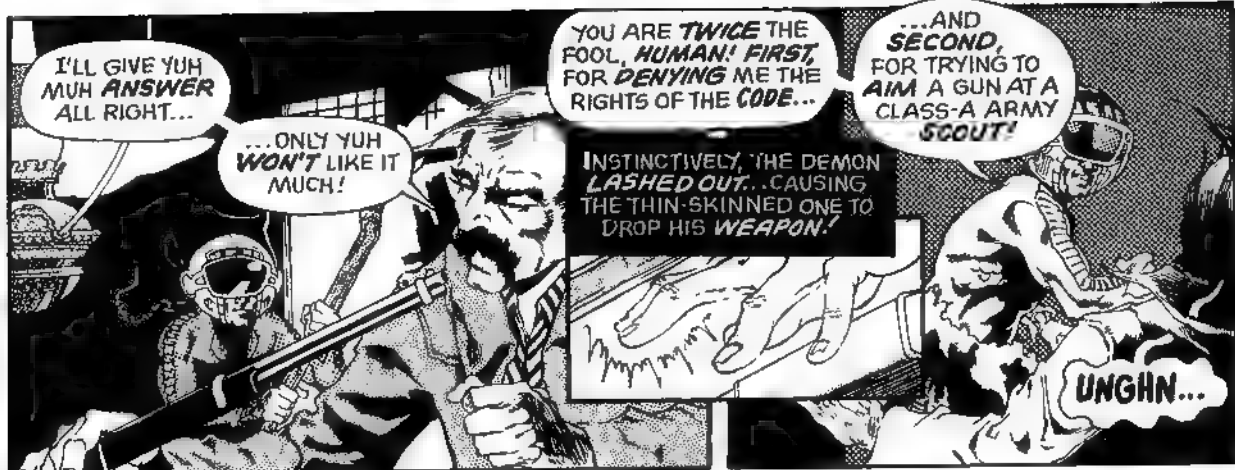
'SIDES,  
MEAT'S TOO  
SCARCE TUH  
GIVE AWAY TUH  
STRANGERS!  
SO... GOOD  
NIGHT!

THE DEMON DID NOT THINK IN  
HIS RAGE, HE SIMPLY  
SMATTERED THE DOOR...

KA-BRACK!

INTO FLYING SPLINTERS!

I'LL ASK  
YOU ONE LAST  
TIME, OLD MAN...  
AND I HOPE YOU'LL  
CAREFULLY  
RE-THINK YOUR  
REPLY!





THEN OBLIVION!!

AFTER A WHILE, THE SWIRLING DARKNESS LIFTED! ENCIRCLED ABOUT THE DEMON WAS A MENACING RING OF GRUMBING TOWNSMEN...

...MEN WHO BROODINGLY AWAITED THE LATE ARRIVAL OF THE OLD MAN AND ROSE IN EAGER ANTICIPATION AS HE APPROACHED!

AA! WHATEVER YOU DO PLEASE DON'T HURT IM!

QUIET, KATHY! SORRY AH'M LATE, BOYS! I HAD TO FIND A STRONG ROPE FOR THE LIKES OF HIM!

MY NAME IS HUNTER! I AM A SLAYER OF DEMONS!

WHAT KINDA BULL YUH TRYIN TUM SHOVEL, HALF-BREED? AH! I NO MORE A THEM MUTANTS AROUND!

HAVEN'T BEEN FOR YEARS! WE WIPE'D EM OUT AFTER THE LAST WAR!

WRONG! THE DEMONS FELL BACK! RETREATED TO RE GROUP THEIR FORCES! THEY'RE STILL OUT THERE.. PLANNING TO ATTACK ANEW!

I TRACKED A WINGED PATROL TO THIS AREA! FREE ME... AND THERE STILL MAY BE A CHANCE TO SAVE YOUR VILLAGE FROM THE R DEVILRY!

BUT THE DEMON-KILLER COULD TELL FROM THE HARD LOOK IN THE OLD MAN'S EYES THAT IT WAS NO USE!

HE COULD ONLY  
SILENTLY CURSE  
THE STUPIDITY  
OF THESE JEERING  
COWBOYS AS ONE  
OF THEM FLUNG A  
NOOSE ABOUT  
HIS NECK!

LET'S FIND US A  
STURDY LIMB AN' HANG  
THIS LYIN' SCUM!

THEY  
GRUNT  
AND  
PULL...

...THERE  
IS PAIN!

...AND  
THE LASS,  
KATHLEEN,  
SCREAMS!

THEY  
HOIST...

...SLOWLY  
FADES...

...INTO  
DARK-  
NESS!

...UNTIL  
ALL  
ABOUT  
THE  
DEMON...

BUT  
THEN,  
WITHOUT  
WARNING,  
TERRIFIED  
CONFUSION  
STRIKES!

DIMLY, THE MAN-DEMON SENSES  
THE GIRL TOWERING OVER HIM...  
STRUGGLING WITH HIS BONDS!

WAIT!  
YOU CAN'T  
LEAVE THE  
WOLF-BREED  
LIKE THIS!

HE WON'T  
STAND A  
CHANCE!

BUT, MORE IMPORTANT, WHAT  
COULD HAVE CAUSED THE MEN  
TO FLEE LIKE FRIGHTENED SHEEP?

**SLIT-EYED EYES SQUINT INTO THE NIGHT...AND THE AWESOME REASON REVEALS ITSELF!**



**WOMAN... THERE'S A KNIFE IN MY BOOT! CUT ME FREE!**

**BUT HUNTER CANNOT SPARE A SINGLE SECOND TO PONDER...NOT WHILE HIS HANDS ARE STILL TREY!**

**HOLD STILL! I'M ALMOST THROUGH!**

**HURRY, GIRL! I SENSE THE BIG USLY ONE'S GETTING READY TO...**

**IT IS A SCENE OF MADNESS...GIBBERING INHUMAN THINGS SCRAMBLING OUT OF THE SHADOWS...CREATURES THAT LOGICALLY SHOULD BE DEAD...YET PULSE WITH RADIOACTIVE LIFE!**

**AND, WORSE STILL, HOVERING OVER THE SHUNTING INSANITY... FLYING DEMON PATROL, GOADING THE MINDLESS, HOWLING RABBLE FORWARD... TO WHAT END?**

**GRONK!**

**LEAP!**

**BY THE CODE! IT MOVES FASTER THAN A ZEE BEAM!**

**SNONK!**

**ITS AXE! WATCH OUT FOR ITS AXE!**



THE SLANDERED MOUNTAIN  
DIES QUICKLY UNDER HUNTER'S  
BLADE! YET, EVEN AS IT FALLS,  
OTHERS MUSHROOM TO TAKE  
ITS PLACE!

RUN,  
WOMAN!

I'LL TRY TO  
HOLD THEM  
OFF!

WHAT'S  
THE MATTER  
LIZARD SKIN  
NEED SAW A  
FLYING TACKLE  
FROM THE  
HISTORY TAPES  
BEFORE?

HUNTER'S MOMENTUM HURTLES  
HIM OVER THE DEMON'S MOUNT...

...AND, AS HE DROPS STRUGGLING, THE SIGHT  
COUNTLESS FEET BELOW MOMENTARILY PUNCHES  
THE DEMON INTO SUBMISSION...!

HAVE TO  
GUT THIS SNAKE-  
FACE.

THEN GRAB  
THE DANGLING  
REINS AND  
SWING  
BACK UP!

UUNNN!  
MADE IT!

EASY,  
FLAPPING ONE!  
IT'S YOUR TWO  
REMAINING  
MASTERS THAT  
I'M AFTER!

SCREEEE!



"I JUST HOPE THE  
GIRL IS ALL RIGHT!"

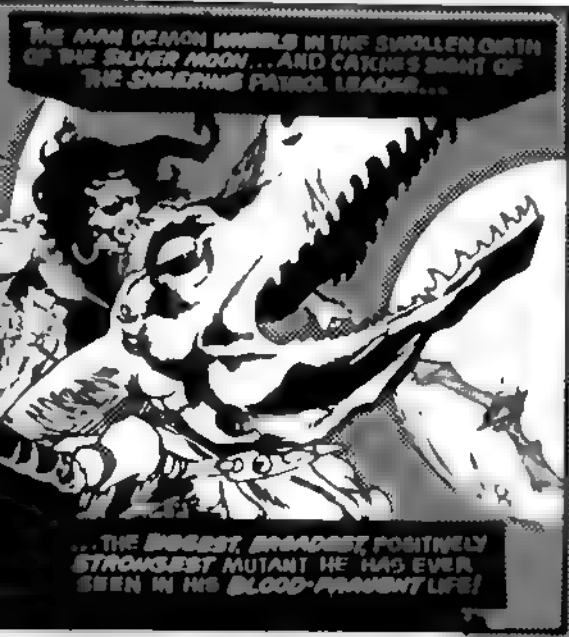
"NEVER SHOULD HAVE  
LEFT HER THE WAY I DID..."

... BUT CAN'T LET MY-  
SELF GET DISTRACTED IN  
THE HEAT OF BATTLE!



I BELIEVE  
THE ANCIENTS  
HAD A SAYING:  
TWO DOWN AND  
ONE TO GO!

SHUNK-K!



THE MAN DEMON WHIRLS IN THE SWOLLEN ORTH  
OF THE SILVER MOON... AND CAKES SIGHT OF  
THE SNEERING PATROL LEADER...

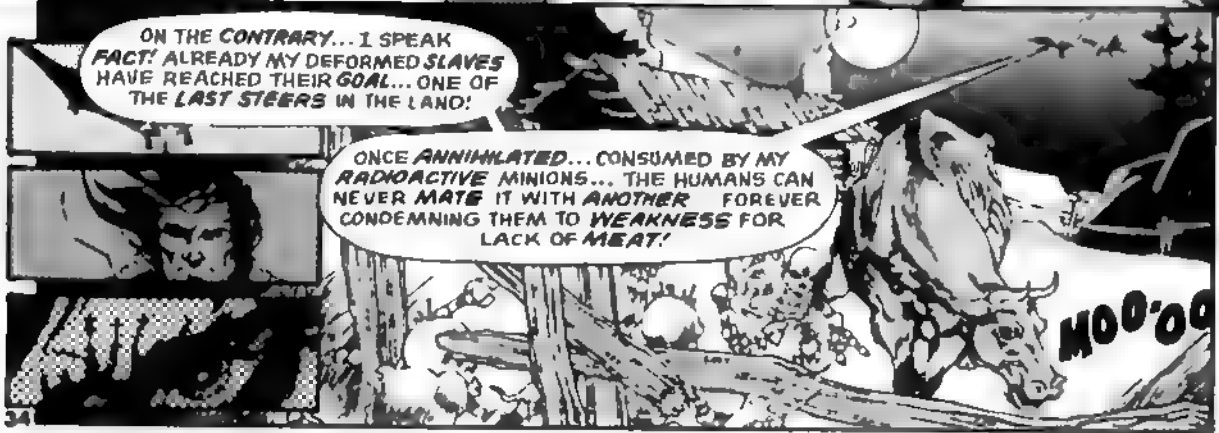
YOU DARE TO  
OPPOSE ME?  
EXCELLENT, WARRIOR!  
I RELISH THE  
CHALLENGE!



A SHAME  
YOU ARE FATED  
TO LOSE EVEN  
SHOULD YOU  
WIN!

I SHALL WIN,  
DEMON... SINCE YOU  
SEEM PREOCCUPIED  
WITH RIDDLES RATHER  
THAN COMBAT!

... THE BIGGEST, BRANDEST, POSTINELY  
STRONGEST MUTANT HE HAS EVER  
SEEN IN HIS BLOOD-PAUNTY LIFE!



ON THE CONTRARY... I SPEAK  
FACT! ALREADY MY DEFORMED SLAVES  
HAVE REACHED THEIR GOAL... ONE OF  
THE LAST STEERS IN THE LAND!

ONCE ANNIHILATED... CONSUMED BY MY  
RADIOACTIVE MINIONS... THE HUMANS CAN  
NEVER MATE IT WITH ANOTHER FOREVER  
CONDEMNING THEM TO WEAKNESS FOR  
LACK OF MEAT!

MOO'OO

BUT AS THE RUTHLESS DEMON LEADER PRATTLES, HUNTER MOVES...JUMPING FROM HIS WINGED MOUNT TO THE DEMON'S...AND FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS NIGHT THE HALF-BREED FINDS HIMSELF HURLING EARTHWARD!

THOSE SCREAMS!  
IT'S THE GIRL...  
BEING STALKED  
DOWN IN THE  
STREET!



STILL WEAN FROM THE IMAGES OF HUNGER AND THIRST... THE BODY-SLAMMING IMPACT TAKES ITS TOLL!

FAINTLY, SO FAR AWAY,  
HUNTER SENSES THE  
LEERING DEMON, ADVAN-  
CING TOWARD HIS HELP-  
LESS PREY!

GREAT  
DIABOLUS  
SMILES UPON  
ME! THAT ROOF  
BROKE MY FALL...  
DELIVERED MY  
ENEMY TO ME,  
AS WELL!

HE ATTEMPTS  
TO MOVE... HIS  
HEART STILL  
BEATS!

LIKE A TIME-RAG  
DOLL OF OLD...THE  
GLITTER-SCALED  
MUTANT TOSSES  
HUNTER...

BUT, HIS  
PROLONGED  
AGONY  
SHALL BE MY  
PLEASURE!

...TO CRASH AGAINST THE ROTTING WOODEN  
SIDEWALK...EVERY BONE AND MUSCLE  
BARELY RESPONDING!

COME,  
MY SLINKING  
SLITHERING  
SLAVES...THIS  
FOE'S FLESH  
IS FOR YOUR  
FEASTING!

CAN'T...  
GET UP...IN  
TIME..!



THEN SUDDENLY, THROUGH A RED HAZE,  
THE HALF-BREED'S DYING WORLD ERUPTS...

THE DISTANT PURR OF A JEEP...  
THE TRANSCENDING STACCATO OF A  
MACHINE GUN... AND THE DEATH-  
SHRIEK OF A FALLING DEMON, ALL  
SEEM TO HAPPEN AT ONCE...

'PEARS  
THAT HUNTER  
FELLA WAS  
RIGHT!

AARRGH!

GOOD THING  
THIS RUSTED  
STUFF FROM THE  
WAR STILL WORKS...  
'CAUSE AH'M GONNA  
BLAST EVERY...

BRAP-BRAT-TAT!

RATA-BRAT-TAT-TAT!

AH WOULD'VE  
BEEN HERE SOONER,  
DEMON-MAN...

...BUT FIRST, WE  
HADDA RUN DOWN THE DEVIL  
THAT WAS GOIN' AFTER OUR  
PRIZE BULL!

SUDDENLY THE OLD MAN BRAKES  
TO A STOP... HE SEES ONE HAS  
FALLEN...! ONE WHO WAS NOT MEANT  
TO FALL!

...KATHY!

OH, MUM GOD!  
SHE WAS IN THE  
MIDDLE OF THAT  
PACK I MOWED  
DOWN!

I FEAR HER SOUL  
HAS MORE PEACE NOW  
THAN YOURS WILL EVER  
KNOW, OLD MAN!

HER NAME WAS KATHLEEN!  
SHE PARTED THIS BRAVE NEW  
WORLD... LEAVING BEHIND A  
MEMORY MOST CHERISHED!

HAD SHE LIVED,  
PERHAPS SHE  
WOULD HAVE  
MEANT SOMETHING  
SPECIAL TO US,  
EH, HUNTER?

PERHAPS!

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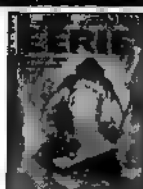
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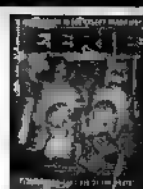
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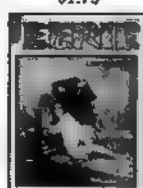
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# The Christmas Story

BY WILL EISNER

Once upon a time,  
in a land far away and  
across the sea,  
there lived a little lad named 'Joy'.

He was so named because,  
when his parents first beheld him,  
there was a terrible war,  
and only he could make them smile.

But one day his poor parents  
were killed,  
leaving him quite alone.

Then at last the war ended,  
and little Joy, who was now 7,  
was left to wander  
and to live like a kitchen mouse,  
to forage and plunder....

And so Joy lived until Christmas,  
which is a time for miracles....  
and, aye, a miracle there did occur...



EDITOR'S NOTE: At the end of World War II thousands of young children were left homeless... without parents, and in most cases without any identity. A large part of Europe was in ruins. Amid the rubble of the ruined cities and smashed buildings these pitiful creatures foraged and somehow lived, while the Big Powers and Charitable Agencies tried to sort things out.

Well, it came to pass,  
on the night before Christmas,  
that a hush fell upon the earth;  
for those who had families,  
or friends,  
sought them out,  
and gathered to enjoy  
the warmth of belonging.

Only poor, tired little Joy,  
who had no one,  
huddled in the snowy ruins  
and nibbled sadly  
on his last crust of bread,  
which he had saved for this night...  
...for, you see, he had heard  
about Christmas from soldiers.

Suddenly he heard a feeble cry...  
it was an old man...  
Joy ran to him,  
thinking that perhaps  
there was something he could steal...  
but no—  
he was even poorer than Joy.

HELP...HELP...  
I HAVEN'T EATEN IN  
DAYS... I AM DYING  
FOR LACK OF  
FOOD...

HELP ME...





## And then the miracle happened ....

for, to his own surprise,  
Joy gave to the old man  
his last bit of bread!

"Who are you?" asked the lad,  
when the old man recovered  
a little.

"I am Santa Claus",  
was the reply.

"You are crazy, old one. True,  
I have never seen Santa... but  
the soldiers say he is fat  
and jolly and gives wonderful  
gifts... you are skinny and  
poor!"

But the old man insisted.  
said he...

...OF COURSE  
I AM SKINNY AND POOR,  
FOR THIS IS A POOR COUNTRY!  
BUT I AM A REAL SANTA CLAUS AND  
I WILL GIVE YOU A REAL PRESENT..  
**MAKE A WISH...**  
MAKE THE BIGGEST, THE  
GREATEST WISH YOU CAN  
THINK OF... AND I WILL  
GIVE IT TO YOU...

I WISH ..I WISH  
THAT I COULD LIVE IN A  
LAND WHERE THE CITIES  
ARE NOT SMASHED AND THE  
BUILDINGS STAND TALL AND  
CLEAN.. WHERE THERE ARE  
BIG STORES FILLED TO THE SEAMS  
WITH TOYS AND FOOD AND  
WARM CLOTHING ... WHERE ONE  
IS NOT DRIVEN FROM PLACE TO  
PLACE, AND WHERE THE POOR  
ARE SHELTERED, THE HUNGRY FED  
... SOMEPLACE WHERE EVEN  
ORPHANS HAVE FRIENDS, AND  
WHERE SANTA CLAUS IS FAT  
AND RICH SO HE CAN GIVE BOYS

YAWW WZZZ



No one, not even a fat,  
jolly Santa,  
could grant such a giant wish.  
"Ho hum", thought Joy,  
"it's hopeless".  
And so, overcome by fatigue,  
the lad allowed himself  
to fall instantly asleep.

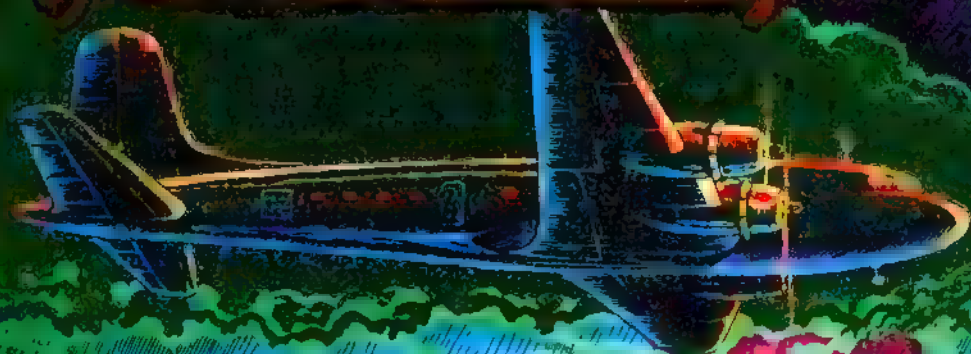
But the skinny old Santa  
smiled with his eyes.  
He lifted the boy  
to his bony shoulders  
and, with the last of his strength,  
set out across the snow.

Soon he reached an airfield...

SURE WE CAN  
TRANSFER YOUR VISA  
TO HIM. AND THE PLANE  
WILL MAKE IT IN 15  
HOURS BUT...

NEVER MIND  
JUST SO HE'S THERE  
BY CHRISTMAS  
MORNING

And so, while Joy slept,  
a mighty plane carried him away.





And lo...  
on Christmas morning,  
little Joy awoke,  
to find himself  
in a strange land.

And by golly,  
his wish had come true...  
for on all sides were good things:  
parks especially for children;  
big, warm libraries;  
great, shiny cars.

Yes, there were tall buildings,  
and stores filled with  
more things than he could think of.  
Here, too, were the very things  
he had asked for;  
and, what was more,  
he was really and truly awake.



All that day Joy explored  
this fairyland.  
Oh, the wonderful things he found...  
little stores that sold only candy;  
great stores, with sections  
just for children;  
churches where one could sit  
and listen to the music unmolested;  
elevators,  
and warm public buildings  
with plumbing that was magical.

Nowhere to be seen  
were there ruins,  
and no soldiers chased him;  
nor did he have to steal,  
for there was plenty for all,  
and at every street corner  
a Santa Claus collected gifts...  
Real Santas,  
and not a skinny one in the lot.

By evening  
he had reached the suburbs;  
he must ask... he must...  
it was too good to be true...

WHUT COUNTRY?  
WHY, THIS IS  
U.S. AMERICA, BOY!  
CMON IN AND HAVE  
YO'SELF A TIME...  
IT'S 1946!!

WHERE IS THIS  
PLACE... WHAT COUNTRY  
IS THIS, PLEASE?





And now little Joy knew  
that Santa Claus  
had given him  
the biggest Christmas  
present in the world...

A  
Merry  
Christmas.

C'MON, BOY...  
THAT'S MAH BOSS,  
THE SPIRIT... AND  
COMMISSIONER DOLAN,  
AND ELLEN AND P'GELL,  
AND LOTSA OUR FRIENDS...  
C'MON, AH'LL SHARE MAH  
CHRISTMAS PRESENT  
WIF YO'... IT'S THE  
**BIGGEST ONE AH  
EVUH HAD!**

OH, THANK YOU  
JUST THE SAME,  
BUT I'VE ALREADY  
HAD MINE.



STEPHEN BOYED  
a.k.a.  
SONNY BOYED

CRACKER BARREL

3RD OFFENDER  
28 INDICTMENTS  
DOWN GANG LEADER

RABBIT CHASE  
a.k.a.  
BR AR PATCH

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WILL EISNER'S

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FIRST ISSUE  
ON SALE JANUARY 29



My name is Derek  
Schreck. In German,  
it means terror. Tell me,  
God, tell me before I  
stuff this warped pen  
through my eye.  
Tell me, how did my  
ancestors know?



# SCHRECK: BRIGHT EYES!

IN DEFERENCE TO EARTH'S DEGENERATING  
ECOLOGY, THEY'D ESTABLISHED NUCLEAR  
TESTING FACILITIES ON THE MOON. THE  
BASE SOMEHOW WENT BLOOEY IN A  
CATASTROPHIC CHAIN-REACTION...

...DETONATING EVERY  
ARMED AMERICAN  
MISSILE!


SOME FUN THEY HAD UP THERE... FOR A WHILE!...  
SPECTACULARLY DWARFING THE LARGEST OF THE  
MOON'S NATURAL CRATERS... TRANSFORMING A  
ROMANTIC BALL OF ROCK AND DUST INTO A  
SEETHING INFERNO OF EMANATING RADIATION...

...RADIATION WHICH, AT THE  
MOON'S PERIGEE, POURED  
SOME 221,463 MILES  
DOWN TO EARTH... TURNING  
EYES WHITE AND MINDS  
DEMENTED...

LAST I HEARD, AN  
ESTIMATED 92% OF  
EARTH'S POPULATION  
HAD WHITE-CRUSTED  
EYES. THAT MEANT  
THEY WERE LOONEY...


MY WIFE PAULA  
WAS STANDING IN  
THE DOORWAY...  
KNUCKLES BENT  
AROUND A WICKED  
BLOOD-STAINED  
MEAT CLEAVER  
...EYES A  
MILKY-WHITE!  
THAT MEANT  
I WAS IN  
TROUBLE...

PAULA!  
PUT THAT  
DOWN  
FOR GOD'S  
SAKE!



PUT IT DOWN?  
WHY SHOULD SHE  
PUT IT DOWN?  
IT'S SUCH A  
LOVELY MEAT  
CLEAVER.

WE THINK  
YOU'RE MEAT,  
MISTER,  
REAL MEAT!




WE DON'T WANT  
TO HURT YOU!  
WE JUST WANT  
TO OPEN YOU  
UP... TO SEE WHY  
THE MOON DIDN'T  
MAKE YOU A  
WEREWOLF  
LIKE THE REST  
OF US.

DOESN'T  
MATTER, I  
ALWAYS  
SAY.

LEE'S EYES WERE  
FILMED WHITE TOO,  
BUT HE MADE MORE  
SENSE THAN MOST!  
HE WAS MY BEST  
FRIEND, WHEN WE  
WORKED TOGETHER  
ON THE NEWSPAPER...  
MUTUALLY REPORTING  
ON DISMAL STATES-  
OF- AFFAIR...


THE GIGGLING WAS THE EERIE  
PART... ESPECIALLY WHEN NOTHING  
STRUCK ME AS PARTICULARLY HUMOROUS!

LEE'S GIGGLE WAS WEIRDER THAN MOST... PITCHED  
HIGH AND SHRILL BUT WITH MENACING SNUFTER  
TO IT... SORT OF LIKE A CASTRATED WARTHOG...



I REACHED FOR  
THE FIRE-POKER...  
KNOWING I WAS  
DAMNED  
DESPERATE...

...BUT NOT  
REALIZING  
JUST HOW  
DESPERATE  
UNTIL I  
WAS  
REMINDING  
THAT I NO  
LONGER  
HAD MUCH  
OF A  
RIGHT  
HAND...



YEARS AGO THE RING FINGER ON  
MY LEFT HAND HAD BEEN BROKEN  
WHEN SEVEN GUYS JUMPED ON ME  
AT THE 30 YARD LINE. IT HEALED  
WITH A LUMP. I USED TO MAKE  
A JOKE OF WEARING MY WEDDING  
BAND ON THE RIGHT HAND...  
SAYING IT WAS THE HAND I USED  
MOST AND EVERYTHING I TOUCHED  
WOULD REMIND ME OF PAULA...

SO WHEN MY SWEET WIFE  
BROUGHT THAT MEAT CLEAVER  
DOWN WITH A HORRIBLE SIZZLE  
OF AGONY SHE SEVERED MORE  
THAN JUST MY HAND...

...WHICH IS WHY I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO  
GRAB THE POKER WITH MY LEFT HAND...

...AND SLAM IT INTO THE  
LEERING FACE OF PAULA'S  
NEW LOVER...

**ZUFFTTT**

...FEELING NO  
COMPUNCTIONS  
WHATSOEVER.

I HEARD RAUCOUS GIGGLING  
UNDER ME, SO I KNEW IT  
WASN'T A CORPSE I  
VAULTED.

...TO EXECUTE A HURLING  
ROLL-BLOCK INTO MY EX-WIFE!

SHE LURCHED  
ABRUPTLY, AND  
FELL INTO A  
HEADLONG  
SPRAWL..

AT LEAST ONE  
OF THEM HADN'T  
BEEN SLOWED  
BY HUNGER  
PANGS!

...WHICH ENDED AFTER  
I WAS ALREADY ON MY  
FEET... SCRAMBLING FOR  
THE STAIRWAY WITH A  
BATTALION OF LUNATICS  
HUNGRILY ON MY HEELS.

I WRENCHED  
FREE AND  
SPLIT HIS  
DERANGED  
SKULL  
INTO A  
SICKENING  
FOUNTAIN OF  
SCARLET  
SLOP!

JUST AS HE WAS  
ABOUT TO TAKE A  
GENEROUS CHOMP..



I SPUN AWAY FROM THE ERUPTING GORE AND SURGED UP THE STAIRS, WISHING I HAD A HAND TO EXPLOIT THE BANNISTER...

BUT IT WAS JUST AS WELL I DIDN'T... BECAUSE PAULA HAD REVIVED FROM HER RUDE TUMBLE...

...AND IT WAS APPARENT SHE WAS VIOLENTLY DETERMINED TO RID ME OF THAT HAND...

...OR MAYBE OF THE WEDDING BAND.

EITHER WAY, THE MOON'S MADNESS HAD RIPPED FROM HER SHREPPED MEMORY THE FACT SHE'D ALREADY SUCCEEDED IN FREEING ME OF BOTH.

THUK!  
...BUT THAT HAD DONE NOTHING TO DELIBERATE HER AIM.



I DEBATED TAKING CLEAVER, BUT I COULDN'T CARRY BOTH IT AND THE POKER...

AS I CRESTED THE TOP, I GLIMPSED THEM SWIFTLY MOUNTING THE LADDER BELOW ME AND WAS REMINDED OF NIMBLE, CHITTERING MONKEYS...

AND COME TO THINK OF IT, I HADN'T EVEN REACHED THAT CONCLUSION UNTIL I WAS HALFWAY UP THE LADDER.



BUT WITH ONE FOOT FIRMLY PLANTED ON THE ATTIC FLOOR AND THE OTHER PLANTED IN THE MADNESS-SWIRLED FACE OF THE TOPMOST ZOMBIE...



...I WAS REMINDED OF A CHILDHOOD GAME OF DOMINOES.

THEY MAY HAVE BEEN INFUSED WITH MINDLESS AGILITY... SUSPENDED CAUTION... BUT THEY WERE STILL BOUND BY GRAVITY.

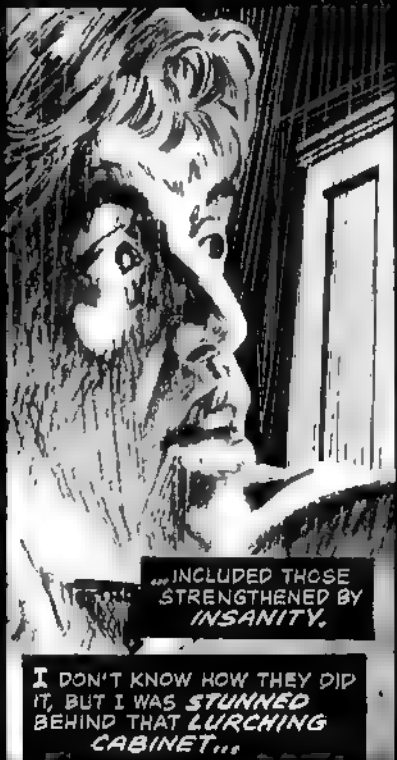
AND BY THE TIME THEY HAD RECOVERED WHAT LITTLE SENSES, THEY STILL POSSESSED AND WERE AGAIN CONCERNED WITH THE PHYSICS OF CONQUERING GRAVITY, I HAD SLAMMED THE HATCH, LATCHED IT, AND SHOVED A SHOULDER-PROOF CHINA CABINET OVER IT...



MY MIND BROODED ABOUT TENSILE STRENGTH, HIGH FALLS AND OTHER GLOOMY THINGS AS I MANIPULATED MY FIRST ONE-HANDED SLIP-KNOT BY THE HAZE-MUTED LIGHT OF A PERVERTED MOON...



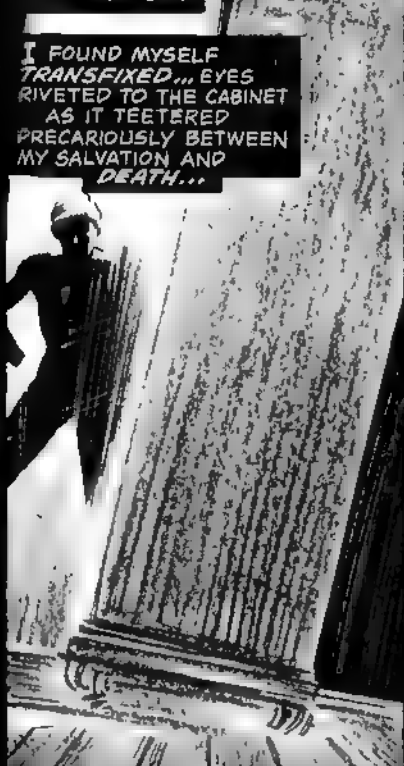
I'D JUST COMPLETED THE KNOT, WHEN I REALIZED THAT TO ACCURATELY ASSESS SOMETHING AS SHOULDER-PROOF, THE CAPABILITIES OF ALL SHOULDERS MUST BE ACCOUNTED...



...INCLUDED THOSE STRENGTHENED BY INSANITY.

I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY DID IT, BUT I WAS STUNNED BEHIND THAT LURCHING CABINET...

AS THE CABINET ROCKED BACK ON TWO CORNERS, THE URGENCY OF MY PREDICAMENT EVAPORATED.



I FOUND MYSELF TRANSFIXED... EYES RIVETED TO THE CABINET AS IT TEETERED PRECARIOUSLY BETWEEN MY SALVATION AND DEATH...

OTHER THINGS WERE MUTED TOO! THE BURBLING GIGGLES... THE UNREMITTING THUD OF CRAZED SHOULDERS AGAINST A CHINA CABINET-ANCHORED TRAPDOOR... THE ADRENALIN-SPEED RUSH OF BLOOD THROUGH MY TEMPLES...

THEN A LOONEY'S EAGER  
ARM DROVE THE HATCH UP...

...AND DECIDED THE  
ISSUE MOST EMPHATICALLY.

WOKK!

AND I WAS LEFT WITH...  
MAYBE... JUST ENOUGH  
TIME FOR ONE LEFT-  
HANDED TOSS...

EVEN NOW I CAN'T BELIEVE...

...THAT IT WAS MY HAND ALONE  
RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT TOSS.

IT WAS A CONVULSIVE  
SHUDDER OF FEAR,  
OF COURSE...

...BUT AT THAT MOMENT  
I IMAGINED I COULD  
FEEL THEIR FOUL  
BREATH CHILLING  
MY NECK...

...AND THAT WAS  
ALL THE INCENTIVE  
I NEEDED TO  
LAUNCH MYSELF  
INTO QUEASY  
VERTIGO.

YOU MIGHT THINK IT WAS EXHILARATING...



YEAH!... ABOUT AS EXHILARATING AS TARZAN NARROWLY EVADING THE SNAPPING JAWS OF A SLAVERING CROC WHILE BEING TREATED TO A FLASH-SHOW OF ALL THE LOW POINTS IN HIS LIFE...

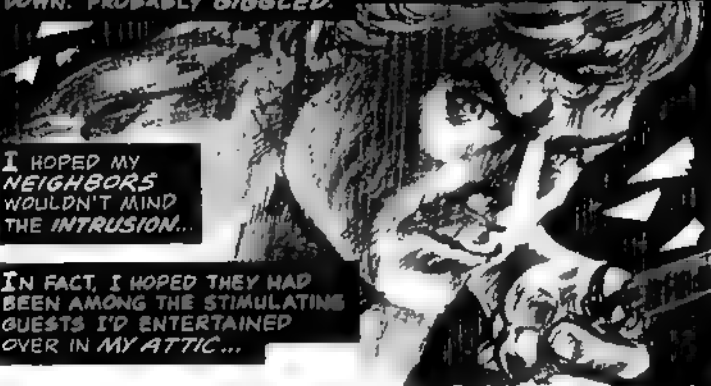
THE ARC OF MY SWING ENDED WITH ME SPLASHING INTO A BRITTLE SHOWER OF GLASS...



...JUST AS MY LUNATIC PURSUER TERMINATED HIS SWAN DIVE IN A SPLATTERED BLOTCH STAINING THE GROUND. AND THE IDIOT LEMMING HADN'T EVEN SCREAMED ON THE WAY DOWN. PROBABLY GIGGLED.

I HOPED MY NEIGHBORS WOULDN'T MIND THE INTRUSION...

IN FACT, I HOPED THEY HAD BEEN AMONG THE STIMULATING GUESTS I'D ENTERTAINED OVER IN MY ATTIC...



BUT GEORGE AND EDNA HAD STAYED HOME THAT NIGHT,

...AND WERE TAKING DINNER NO LESS.



AND THEY DIDN'T SEEM TOO HAPPY ABOUT MY DISRUPTION.



...AND MADE A HASTY  
*EXIT.*

GET UP  
GEORGE! I'M  
HUNGRY!

GEORGE AND EDNA HAD TWO HEALTHY TEENAGE SONS  
BY THE WAY.

ME, I'D ALWAYS BEEN CONVINCED THEY WERE PUNKS!

WHEN I SAW  
THEM COMIN'  
AT ME, I  
BEGAN TO  
WONDER IF  
I'D EVER  
SEE SOME  
CLEAR EYES  
AGAIN, EVEN  
IN THE  
MIRROR.

I WANTED  
THEM TO  
LIVE, IN THE  
HOPE THAT  
ONE OF  
THEM MIGHT  
HAVE THE  
SENSE TO  
LET HIS  
MOTHER  
DOWN  
FROM THE  
CEILING...

SO I MERELY KICKED AS  
BRUTALLY AS I COULD...

...WHICH BROUGHT ME TIME FOR  
A RENDEZVOUS WITH THE  
CHANDELIER.

THE CHANDELIER  
DIDN'T STOP  
ME! DIDN'T  
REALLY THINK  
IT *WOULD!* BUT  
AT LEAST IT  
SLOWED ME  
DOWN... AND  
DROPPED ME  
OFF WHERE  
I WANTED  
TO BE...

THEN I WAS OUTSIDE! AND SO  
WERE THEY! RIGHT BEHIND ME...

...POURING AND  
STREAMING  
IN LUNATIC  
DROVES FROM  
GANGWAYS AND  
HOUSES...

...DROPPING  
FROM TREES  
WITH  
SNICKERS  
AND  
GUFFAWS...

...SCREAMING AND  
GIGGLING AND  
SLOBBERING...  
AND CHASING.

TWO HANDS IN TWENTY-FIVE  
YEARS NEVER GOT THE WORKOUT  
MY ONE GOT THAT NIGHT...



THEY GATHERED BEHIND ME LIKE LOCUSTS! A COALESCING CLOUD OF NUMBERLESS SCAVENGERS HELLBENT ON STRIPPING ANYTHING EDIBLE IN THEIR SWEEPING PATH. ALTHOUGH CONSTANTLY ENGAGED IN MAYHEM, THEIR INSTANT SOLIDARITY UPON SIGHTING A SANE WAS BLOOD-CHILLING... AS I WELL KNEW.

I SAW THE FENCE AS  
BENIGN ESCAPE...



AND FRANTICALLY  
HAULED MYSELF UP  
IT, EYES PINNED TO  
THE REAR.



AND THAT WAS  
DEFINITELY MY  
MISTAKE...



...CAUSE I SHOULD'VE  
WATCHED WHERE I  
WAS GOING.



CRAP!

WE STOOD FACE TO  
FACE FOR ONE LONG  
AGONIZING MOMENT...

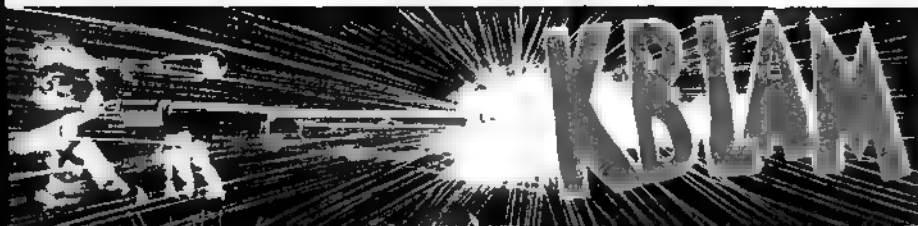


THEN FROM OUT OF NOWHERE CAME  
A SHOT! A DISTANT, ECHOING CRACK  
...AND ONE OF THE CRAZIES PITCHED  
FORWARD... SHATTERED HEAD-  
FIRST...



I WAS INURED BY THIS TIME, TO THE  
WELTER OF DAILY VIOLENCE AND  
GORE... BUT I NEVER DREAMED I'D  
FIND THE SIGHT BEAUTIFUL...

WHOEVER IT WAS HE DIDN'T  
SQUANDER **BULLETS...** THE  
SECOND RETORT FELLED  
ANOTHER CRAZY... AND  
THOUGH THEY HADN'T REACTED  
TO THE FIRST DEATH, THEY  
BEGAN FRANTICALLY SEARCH-  
ING FOR THE LOUDLY SPURT-  
ING IN NOISE...



WHEN THE **THIRD** ONE EMBEDDED HIS WHITE GOOKED  
EYES INTO THE GROUND, THEY BEGAN **FLIPPING OUT**  
IN EARNEST! THEIR HANDS **TWITCHED** IN AGITATED,  
UNCERTAIN GESTICULATIONS AND AS ONE, THEY RAISED  
THEIR CONTORTED FACES TO THE GLISTENING **MOON...**



WHEN THE **FOURTH** CRUMPLED  
FROM THEIR WEIRDLY REVERENT  
CONGREGATION, THEY ABAND-  
ONED THE ULLULATING HOWL  
AND LOOKED AT ME WITH A  
MOCKERY OF **AWE...**

THEN THEY **FLED...** DISPERSING  
WITH THE STRANGE MOANING  
AND CROONING OF **OLD**  
**WOMEN.**



AND THAT'S WHEN THE  
MOON BLINKED **OUT** ON ME...

...BEFORE I HAD AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO **SEE**  
...MUCH LESS **THANK...**  
MY INVISIBLE SHARP-  
SHOOTING **SAVIOR.**



I WOKE UP WITH **CHEESE-  
CLOTH** OVER MY EYES...

...AND WADS OF **COTTON**  
STUFFED IN MY **BRAIN.**

AND EVEN WHEN THINGS **CLEARED UP,**  
I **STILL** FELT A LITTLE FUZZY... BUT  
AT LEAST I COULD PERCEIVE THAT I  
WAS IN A ROOM OF WHITE STERILITY...

...**SAFE!**

MY RIGHT ARM FELT ODD BEYOND  
THE ABSENCE OF MY HAND...

...AN ODDNESS ATTRIBUTABLE TO  
THE METAL CUP WHICH NOW CAPPED  
MY CAUTERIZED WRIST STUMP. IT  
WAS, I LEARNED UPON INSPECTION,  
SURGICALLY IMPLANTED! A SPOON  
SPROUTED FROM ITS END!

Supercorder 300

I DECIDED I'D LISTEN  
TO THE WAITING  
TAPE WHILE I ATE...

I DEPRESSED THE BUTTON!...  
IT WAS A WOMAN'S VOICE:

A SPOON  
OBVIOUSLY  
DESIGNED  
FOR THE  
BOWL OF  
SOUP  
SET ON THE  
TABLE.

SORRY THE  
SOUP'S COLD, BUT  
I WAS CALLED  
AWAY ON URGENT  
BUSINESS!... WHICH  
ALSO EXPLAINS  
THIS TAPE!

AT THE TIME OF THIS RECORDING,  
YOU HAVE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR  
TWO DAYS... PARTIALLY DUE TO  
EXHAUSTION... PARTIALLY TO A  
LOSS OF BLOOD AND PARTIALLY TO  
THE ANESTHETIC I ADMINISTERED  
PRIOR TO THE GRAFTING OF YOUR  
PROSTHETIC HAND!... WHICH YOU  
HAVE DOUBTLESS NOTICED.

ON THE WALL FACING YOU  
IS A SHELVING SYSTEM. ON  
THE BOTTOM SHELF YOU WILL  
NOTICE AN ARRAY OF  
AUXILIARY UTENSILS DESIGNED,  
LIKE THE SPOON, TO PLUG IN  
YOUR WRIST CAP. WHILE THE  
INSTRUMENTS WILL NOT  
UNFORTUNATELY REPLACE  
THE DEXTERITY OF AN  
ACTUAL HAND...

...THEY SHOULD CONSTITUTE  
THE MOST EFFECTIVE  
SUBSTITUTE IMAGINABLE.

MOST OF THE  
UTENSILS ARE  
COMMON ENOUGH...  
KNIFE, FORK,  
FLASHLIGHT, PEN,  
AXE, SCREWDRIVER...  
BUT THE ROBOT-LIKE  
SIMULATED HAND IS  
EQUIPPED WITH  
FLEXIBLE JOINTS.

WHILE YOU WON'T  
HAVE CONTROL OVER  
THE JOINTS, THEY  
MAY BE MANUALLY  
FASTENED AROUND  
AN OBJECT FOR  
LIMITED GRASPING  
AND CARRYING  
ABILITIES. IF THE  
OBJECT HAPPENS TO  
BE METALLIC, SO  
MUCH THE BETTER,  
SINCE THE HAND IS  
ITSELF MAGNETIC.

I HOPE YOU WILL  
FIND THESE IMPLEMENTS  
HELPFUL IN WHAT WE  
BOTH RECOGNIZE TO  
BE EXTREMELY  
DEMANDING TIMES.

I CAN ANTICIPATE YOUR NEXT QUESTION... YOU ARE IN  
THE MUNICIPAL ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE! I ASSURE YOU  
MY EYES ARE CLEAR AND BRIGHT... AND THAT YOUR LOCATION IS  
NOT A CRUEL JOKE. THE ASYLUM IS MY BASE OF OPERATIONS  
SIMPLY BECAUSE IT IS EQUIPPED WITH A VITALLY NECESSARY  
SECURITY SYSTEM...

...AS WELL AS THE MEDICAL FACILITIES WHICH ENABLED ME TO **GRAFT** YOUR NEW "HAND." ALSO, THE **METAL SHOP**, FURNISHED WITH TOOLS AND A LATHE... FORMERLY USED FOR THE REHABILITATION OF PATIENTS, HAS PROVEN **QUITE USEFUL**.

**CLICK!**

AND THAT WAS **IT!** THE WHOLE KIBOSH DELIVERED IN A TERSE, EFFICIENT, FEMININE VOICE ACCUSTOMED TO HANDLING MATTERS...

I REMEMBER THINKING IT MUST HAVE BEEN **SOME** MOTHER OF AN ANESTHETIC... AS MY HEAD COLLAPSED UPON ITSELF, FIGHTING THE CLAMPING VISE

FINALLY... I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR YOUR VIRTUAL INCARCERATION... IT WAS **NECESSARY!** THE DOOR WILL BE UNLOCKED UPON MY RETURN.

AS EXPEDIENTLY AS POSSIBLE!

BUT I STILL MANAGED TO INVINCIBLE **INTEREST** WHEN THE DOOR EVENTUALLY OPENED...

...TO ADMIT **BRIGHT EYES**, PERHAPS THE MOST **BEAUTIFUL**... AND INDISPUTABLY MOST **WELCOME** WOMAN I'D EVER SEEN.

I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND AT FIRST, WHY I **DESPISED** THE THREE SANE MEN WHO ACCOMPANIED HER...

BUT BRIGHT EYES GAVE ME A **REASON** SOON ENOUGH...

OH MY **GOD!!!**

**RESTRAIN HIM! QUICKLY!**

HIS EYES ARE **WHITE!!**

HE'S CONTRACTED THE **MOONTAINT!**

YEAH... THAT WAS ME... **WHITE EYES!**

I'D CAUGHT THE **MOON-MADNESS**... AND HAD BECOME JUST LIKE THE **OTHER CRAZIES** OF THE WORLD!

**PSYCHOTIC**... **DEMENTED**... **MAD**... **WHACKED-OUT!** WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT!

I WAS A **WEREWOLF!**...

...AND DIDN'T EVEN **KNOW** IT!!



**PROLOGUE:** LONDON, 1886, THE ERA OF COBBLESTONE AND GASLIGHT. ONE OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL AND SORDID TRIALS IN THE EMPIRE'S HISTORY WAS DRAWING TO A CLOSE AS LADY JUSTICE, IN HER BLIND WISDOM, DICTATED THE FATE OF THE SINGULAR, SECRETIVE MAN CALLED... **ARCHAEUS!**

GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY, HAVE YOU REACHED A VEREDICT?

WE HAVE, YOUR HONOR. WE FIND THE DEFENDENT, ALISTAIR ARCHAEUS, GUILTY OF MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE, AND RECOMMEND THE SENTENCE BE DEATH.

IT IS THE DECISION OF THIS COURT THAT YOU BE HANGED BY THE NECK UNTIL DEAD! THIS SESSION IS NOW ADJOURNED!

THANK HEAVEN IT'S FINALLY OVER! BAILIFF, COME INTO MY CHAMBER AND WE'LL OPEN A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE!

TO KNOW THAT YOUR LIFE IS TO BE PREMATURELY TERMINATED, AND TO SPEND THOSE LAST PRECIOUS MOMENTS OF EXISTENCE IN A COLD, GRIM CELL IS A FRIGHTFUL THOUGHT. TO ALISTAIR ARCHAEUS, IT WAS AN ACCURSED REALITY.

SO THEY STILL THINK ALISTAIR  
ARCHAEUS CAN BE JUDGED AND  
PUNISHED LIKE SOME COMMON  
PICKPOCKET. / SNIVELLING  
**IDIOTS!** IT IS **THEIR** FATE  
THAT HAS BEEN SEALED THIS  
DAY, NOT MINE!

IT WAS A CALM, TRANQUIL DAY AND  
THE NOOSE SWUNG GENTLY IN THE  
CRYSTAL BLUE, SUMMER AIR. THE  
PREGNANT GALLOWES CREAKED  
BENEATH THE DEATH WALK OF  
DR. ARCHAEUS.

SOME SWEAR HE SMILED AS THE  
NOOSE WAS LOOPEO ABOUT HIS  
NECK. THE CROWD HUSHED  
SUDDENLY, EXPECTANTLY...



THERE CAME THREE  
SOUNDS...THE GENTLE  
SQUEAK OF THE TRAP  
DOOR AS IT JERKED  
OPEN...A HARSH,  
SUDDEN SNAP AS THE  
ROPE DUG DEEP  
INTO ARCHAEUS'  
GASPING THROAT...  
AND A WHISPERED  
SIGH OF RELIEF  
FROM THE CROWD...



THEIR CURIOSITY SATIATED,  
THEY FILED LISTLESSLY AWAY,  
NO LONGER INTERESTED IN THE  
BROKEN BODY THAT DANGLED  
AMORPHOUSLY IN THE AUGUST  
SUNSHINE...

...DANGLED, AND FELL LIKE AN  
ACORN TO THE GROUND. FOR A  
FEW MOMENTS, IT LAY SILENT,  
UNSTIRRING...

...THEN, SLOWLY, GUIDED BY AN  
IMMORTAL WILL... IT **MOVED!**



# DOCTOR ARCHAEOUS

## THE EVIL THAT MEN DO

DECEMBER 26, 1886. IT HAD BEEN A MILD WINTER THUS FAR, SAVE FOR THE CHILL, SWEEPING WINDS THAT DESCENDED UPON LONDON. THE EVENTS OF THAT GRIM AUGUST MORNING WERE LONG FORGOTTEN BY ALL, BUT ONE MAN... A MAN WHO NOW WATCHED PATIENTLY, VIGILANTLY. THE STERN, CONFIDENT SMILE WAS STILL THERE... SO WERE THE ROPE BURNS PERMANENTLY ENGRAVED UPON HIS TWISTED NECK.

INSIDE, THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT STILL DOMINATED THE ESTATE OF SIR ARTHUR HOLMES, A PROSPEROUS LONDON MERCHANT, AS HE ENTERTAINED A COTERIE OF GUESTS.

EXCELLENT WINE, SIR ARTHUR! YOU MUST SEND ME A CASE OF IT SOMETIME!

OF COURSE, ROBERT. NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'LL SEE IF EVERYTHING IS READY FOR THE CHUKAR HUNT!

A CHUKAR HUNT? IS THAT YOUR HUSBAND'S IDEA OF AN EXCITING AFTERNOON? I'M SURE YOU COULD THINK OF FAR MORE INTERESTING WAYS TO PASS THE TIME.

SAVE YOUR BREATH, ROBERT. I'M NOT INTERESTED.

THAT'S A PITY, MRS. HOLMES. YOU SEE, I LIKE MY GAME STUFFED AND MOUNTED... IT SEEMS A SHAME TO WASTE IT ON A PARTRIDGE.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

A CHUKAR HUNT...HOW VERY CONVENIENT! I ANTICIPATED THAT SIR ARTHUR WOULD INDULGE IN HIS FAVORITE HOLIDAY SPORT, JUST AS HE HAS FOR THE PAST EIGHT YEARS.

...THAT IS WHY I BROUGHT ALONG MY LITTLE STUFFED PETS. THERE IS FAR DIFFERENT, FAR DEADLIER GAME BEING STALKED HERE THAN YOU REALIZE, SIR ARTHUR.

UNAWARE THAT THEIR EVERY MOVE IS MONITORED BY DEFINITIVE, WATCHFUL EYES, SIR ARTHUR AND HIS GUESTS PURSUE THEIR UNSUSPECTING PREY...

THE HUNTERS WATCH WITH PRIDE AS THE TINY BODIES OF THEIR QUARRY ARE SHATTERED BY THE RELENTLESS PELLETS...

NICE SHOT, ROBERT, OLD BOY! WISH MINE HAD BEEN AS LUCKY...

SSSSSSSSHHH!  
THERE'S A FLOCK OF THEM UP AHEAD!

BAM

POW



WELL, AT LEAST I MANAGED TO NET SOMETHING TODAY...

MORE THAN I CAN SAY! THE OTHER BIRDS FLEW OFF IN THIS DIRECTION. I'LL GO ON AHEAD AND TRY MY LUCK AGAIN! I'D HATE TO BE THE ONLY ONE TO RETURN EMPTY-HANDED!



VERY WELL, SIR ARTHUR. THE REST OF US WILL CATCH UP TO YOU LATER.



SIR ARTHUR WALKED ON, THE SILENCE OF THE FOREST BROKEN ONLY BY THE CRUNCH OF GRAVEL BENEATH HIS FEET. IT WAS A HEAVY, OPPRESSIVE SILENCE THAT SWELLED LIKE A THICKENING FOG, ENGULFING ALL IN ITS WAKE.

SUDDENLY...



FLASH OF MEMORY: COLD, STEEL-GREY EYES... A TIGHT, ASSURED SMILE THAT LINGERED EVEN AFTER YOU'D CONSIGNED IT TO THE GRAVE. WHAT THE HELL WAS HIS NAME...?



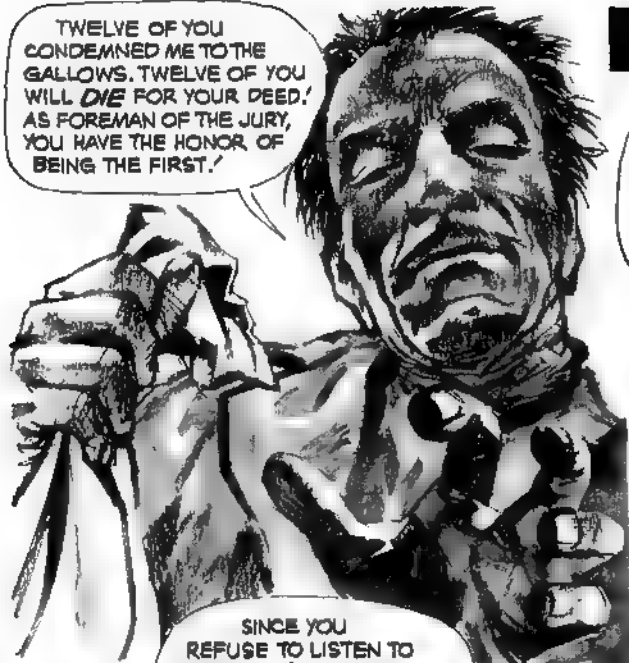
I THOUGHT I SAW THEM SETTLE NEAR HERE, BUT IT'S SO DEATHLY QUIET...



ARCHAEUS!

SO YOU REMEMBER ME, SIR ARTHUR! GOOD! THEN YOU KNOW WHY I AM HERE!

TWELVE OF YOU  
CONDEMNED ME TO THE  
GALLOWS. TWELVE OF YOU  
WILL **DIE** FOR YOUR DEED!  
AS FOREMAN OF THE JURY,  
YOU HAVE THE HONOR OF  
BEING THE FIRST.



SINCE YOU  
REFUSE TO LISTEN TO  
REASON, I'LL HAVE TO  
INSURE YOUR COOPERATION  
THE HARD WAY. YOU NEEDN'T  
WORRY, SIR ARTHUR. YOU'LL  
AWAKEN IN TIME TO  
APPRECIATE THE LITTLE  
DRAMA THAT IS IN STORE  
FOR YOU.

WOK

I WENT THROUGH A  
LOT OF TROUBLE TO HOLLOW  
OUT THIS BUSH FOR YOUR  
BENEFIT, SIR ARTHUR. I HOPE  
YOU APPRECIATE THE EFFORT  
I'VE GONE THROUGH.



SIR ARTHUR STRUGGLED VAINLY AGAINST THE RESTRAINING  
ROPES, INCITED BY ARCHAEUS' TAUNTING SMILE...

YOU MAY AS  
WELL SAVE YOUR  
ENERGY, SIR ARTHUR.  
DYING CAN BE A VERY  
STRENUOUS  
ENTERPRISE.



CONSCIOUSNESS CAME SLOWLY, PAINFULLY, AND IN  
ITS WAKE CAME THE DIRE REALIZATION OF WHAT  
WAS TRANSPIRING. MOST FRUSTRATING OF ALL,  
SIR ARTHUR COULDN'T EVEN **SCREAM**.



ARCHAEUS PAUSED, ADMIRING HIS OWN HANDIWORK. A LOW, GUTTERAL CHUCKLE EMITTED FROM THE TWISTED THROAT...

SIR ARTHUR HOLMES WATCHED IN MORBID FASCINATION AS DR. ARCHAEUS WENT ABOUT HIS CURIOUS WORK...TYING STUFFED, LIFELIKE CHUKARS TO THE OUTSIDE BRANCHES OF THE HEDGE...

DO YOU HERE THEM, SIR ARTHUR? IT SOUNDS TO ME AS THOUGH YOUR GUESTS ARE SEARCHING FOR YOU. I EXPECT THEM ANY MOMENT!

REST ASSURED, SIR ARTHUR, YOUR FLIGHT IS QUITE INVISIBLE TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD. NO-ONE WILL EVER KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE... UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

SIR ARTHUR! SIR ARTHUR... WHERE ARE YOU?

QUIET, GENTLEMEN! THIS MUST BE THE REMAINDER OF THE CHUKAR FLOCK!

BAM

POW

BLAM  
BAM





JESUS CHRIST!  
IT'S SIR ARTHUR...!  
WHAT THE HELL  
HAPPENED TO  
HIM?!

LOOK AT THIS!  
THESE PARTRIDGES  
ARE ALREADY STUFFED  
AND TIED TO THE  
TREE WITH STRING!

HOW DID  
THEY GET  
THERE?

AND WHY?



I THINK THIS  
IS A MATTER FOR  
THE POLICE.

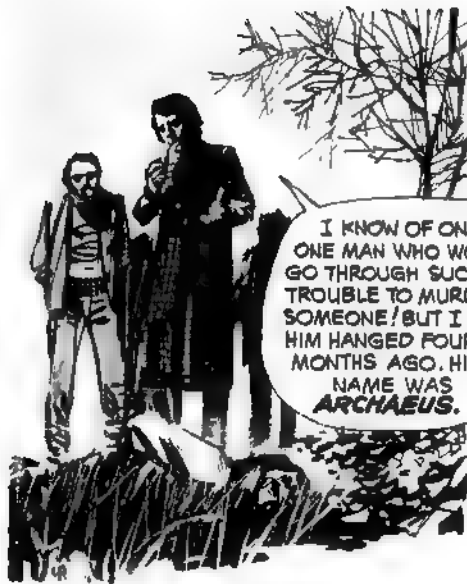


AND THIS IS  
HOW YOU FOUND  
HIM?

EXACTLY! WE FIRED  
ON THE CHUKARS, NOT  
REALIZING THEY WERE  
FAKE. AND SUDDENLY, SIR,  
ARTHUR'S BODY  
TUMBLED OUT.



IT COULDN'T HAVE  
BEEN ANYONE HERE. WE  
WERE TOGETHER THE WHOLE  
TIME...NONE OF US HAD THE  
OPPORTUNITY TO TIE SIR  
ARTHUR LIKE THIS...

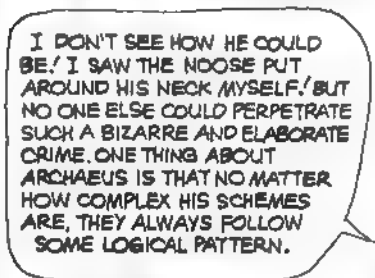


I KNOW OF ONLY ONE MAN WHO WOULD GO THROUGH SUCH TROUBLE TO MURDER SOMEONE! BUT I SAW HIM HANGED FOUR MONTHS AGO. HIS NAME WAS **ARCHAEUS**.



IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, SIR ARTHUR WAS THE FOREMAN OF THE JURY THAT CONVICTED DR. ARCHAEUS.

DO YOU THINK ARCHAEUS IS STILL ALIVE?



I DON'T SEE HOW HE COULD BE! I SAW THE NOOSE PUT AROUND HIS NECK MYSELF! BUT NO ONE ELSE COULD PERPETRATE SUCH A BIZARRE AND ELABORATE CRIME. ONE THING ABOUT ARCHAEUS IS THAT NO MATTER HOW COMPLEX HIS SCHEMES ARE, THEY ALWAYS FOLLOW SOME LOGICAL PATTERN.



BIZARRE AND PERVERSE, PERHAPS, BUT ALWAYS LOGICAL IN THEIR OWN CONTEXT. IF ARCHAEUS IS ALIVE, I'M CERTAIN HE WILL GO AFTER THE OTHER JURORS! BUT I MUST DECIPHER THE PATTERN BEHIND THESE NEW MURDERS...

ELSEWHERE, ALISTAIR ARCHAEUS WATCHED AS THE MORNING SUN CREPT CAUTIOUSLY OVER THE HORIZON! WAKING THE TEEMING LONDON STREETS, SOMEWHERE WITHIN ITS CONFINES, ELEVEN PEOPLE WERE MARKED FOR A BIZARRE AND GROTESQUE EXTINCTION. BUT ARCHAEUS WAS A PATIENT MAN. HE WOULD WAIT UNTIL THE AFTERNOON.



# PRESENTING The 1973 WARREN AWARDS

## BEST COVER OF THE YEAR 1973

### SANJULIAN

Sanjulian was the best horror cover artist in the business when he came to Warren three years ago. But he's improved tremendously since then. When the Warren staff voted for Best Cover of 1973, the top three choices went to Sanjulian's excellent works



Best covers of 1973: EERIE #48, CREEPY #51, EERIE #46.

## BEST ART OF THE YEAR 1973

### ESTEBAN MAROTO

Esteban Maroto is one of the fastest, most reliable, and most talented artists illustrating comics today. Almost everything he draws is excellent. But Esteban's contemporaries felt he surpassed himself with his beautiful "Scream in the Forest" from CREEPY #53.



Best Art In Story: "A Scream In The Forest"—CREEPY #53.

## BEST ARTIST/WRITER OF THE YEAR 1973

### RICHARD CORBEN

Rich Corben returned to the Warren magazines this year, after an all too long absence. He started off by thrilling us with "Mickey Click Flip." And from there jumped to writing, drawing and coloring "Lycanklutz"... unanimously chosen best story written by an artist.



"Lycanklutz": Reason why Rich Corben is Best Writer/Artist.

## BEST STORY OF THE YEAR 1973

### BILL DUBAY

This may have been the year of the Warren magazines. But it was Bill DuBay's year as well. Besides coping honors for scripting the best story to appear in a Warren magazine this year, Dube became both Editor and Vice President of Warren Pub. Company.



Best Story: "Freedom's Just Another Word"—CREEPY #53.

Traditionally, the end of any year is a time to look back. To reflect upon where we've been and what we've accomplished, before striving ahead to the advancing new year.

Looking back on 1973, the writers, artists and editorial staff of the Warren magazines can well feel a sense of proud accomplishment. No one in the comics industry can deny, that 1973 has been the year of the Warren magazines.

First we gave you covers from the two

all-time greatest horror cover artists, Enrich and Sanjulian. We followed up with bizarre stories from the eloquently warped minds of writers John Jacobson, Jack Butterworth and Doug Moench. We bombarded you with the illustrious illustrative works of Jose Gonzalez, Ramon Torrents, Esteban Maroto and Felix Mas. We sent you into freaky acidian worlds of color with Richard Corben. And we gave you posters, games, more stories and more pages of horror than ever be-

fore.

The year 1973 saw the introduction of new Warren stars. The Mummy debuted with oldtimers Jaime Brocal and Steve Skeates. Martin Salvador cavorted about with our new Werewolf. Paul Neary made his and Hunter's bow in EERIE. Vincente Alcazar splashed into the Warren magazines with Schreck. And a kid from Spain named Isidro Mones kept popping up in a lot of magazines with his name misspelled, Munes!

**T**he Warren Awards are an annual presentation, honoring the writers and artists who have consistently produced the absolute best stories and art during the past year. Traditionally, the Warren Award winners have been chosen by the editors and publisher of the three Warren magazines, **CREEPY**, **EERIE** and **VAMPIRELLA**. This year, however, both the writing and artistic staff were asked to participate in the selections. These then, the winners of the fourth annual Warren Awards, were selected by their fellow artists and writers as the most outstanding talent to appear in the Warren magazines during the year 1973.

## BEST ALL AROUND ARTIST RAMON TORRENTS

Ramon Torrents is a new Warren artist. His first work appeared in the early part of 1973. He hit us first with "Star Slaughter," "The Last Hero" and "Call It Companionship." All brought instant raves. And the Warren staff elected Ramon as most versatile artist.



"Star Slaughter" was Ramon Torrents' first for **CREEPY**.

## SPECIAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COVERS

## ENRICH

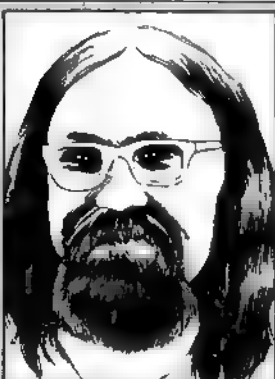
There seemed to be no Warren Award category for Enrich. But because of his enthralling **VAMPIRELLA** covers, he was voted this much-deserved Special Award. Enrich's talent for color and realism is surpassed by none. He is truly one of the world's best artists.



Enrich: Excellent color, excellent art, one of the world's best!

## BEST ALL AROUND WRITER STEVE SKEATES

Earlier this year, Steve Skeates received an award from the Academy of Comic Book Arts for a story Warren had turned down, "Poster Plague." Now, his peers have chosen Steve as the Best All-Around Writer. It's been a good year for Steve with "Changes," "Middle-Am" and The Mummy.

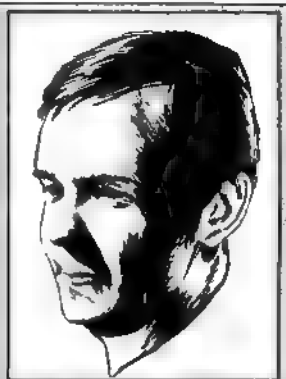


"The Mummy": Only one reason why Steve Skeates is tops.

## SPECIAL AWARD FOR ALL AROUND EXCELLENCE

## RICHARD CORBEN

Rich Corben is one hell of a talent. But to Warren Publishing he's much more than that. He's a guy you can rely on. Rich pours his heart into his work. He constantly gives more than 100% of himself. Rich, we thank you... for your talent, drive, and friendship.



What's said about a super-talent who gives all? Rich Corben!

Oldtimers Carl Wessler, Reed Crandall and Tom Sutton returned to the Warren fold. While oldsters Adolfo Abellan and Fernando Fernandez found us for the first time.

This was the year artist Auraleon discovered he liked drawing women and panthers. While old reliable Jose Bea kept churning out classic after classic.

And while all this was going on, some warped kid up in Canada with a Bezaire name kept trying to sell us his art. We

bought some of his stories instead! And poor Budd Lewis down in Louisiana didn't get Moench credit at all for writing about his "Most Private Terror."

A productive year for sure. Lots of pages. Lots of art and stories. Lots of headaches for editor Bill DuBay and assistants Jim Stenstrom and Bill Mohaley. The first aid chest was stocked with Excedrin... while publisher James Warren basked in the sun-browned sand of the Bahamas, the Hamptons, and that

wonderful vacationland on the Sinai.

But if you think 1973 was the year of Warren, you've got to be here for 1974. You'll be in good company with Jeff Jones, Neal Adams, John Severin and Frank Frazetta. We'll have a new magazine by Will Eisner. More stories by your old favorites. And the best illustrators this side of the comics field. Nineteen seventy three was out best year yet. But 1974 will be the year of the Warren magazines!



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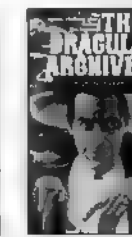
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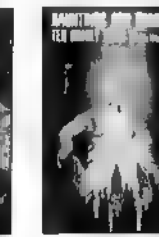
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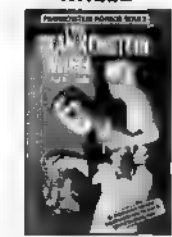
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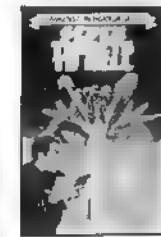
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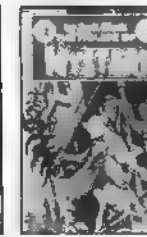
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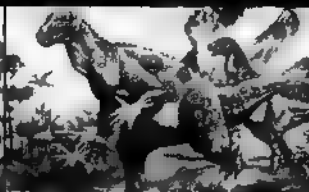
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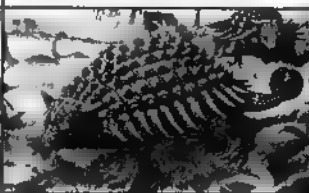
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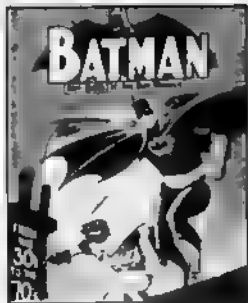
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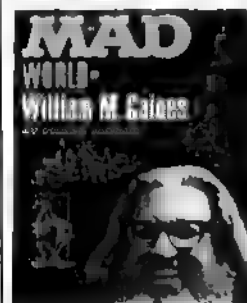
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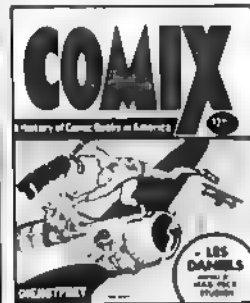
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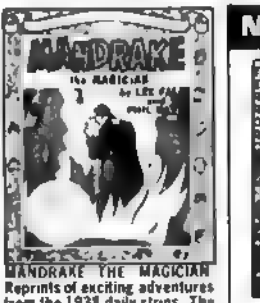
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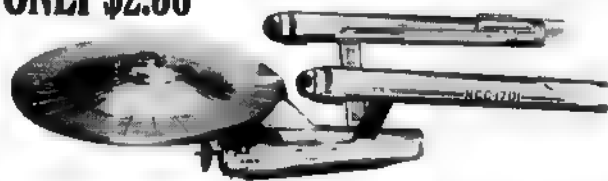
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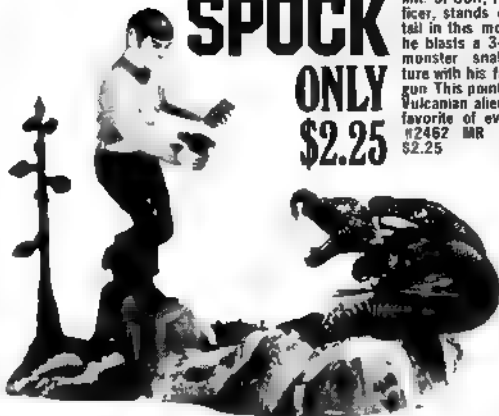
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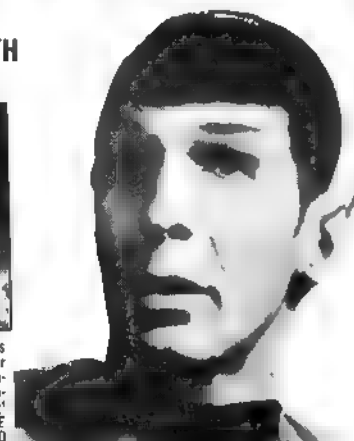


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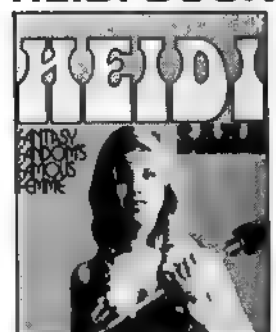
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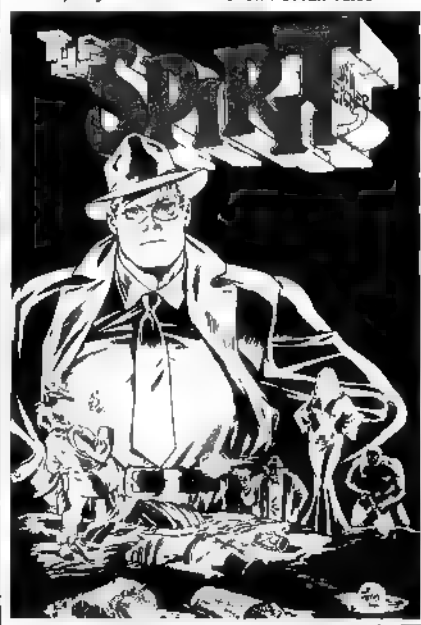
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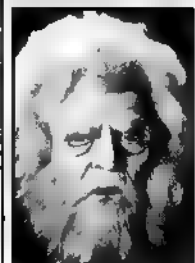
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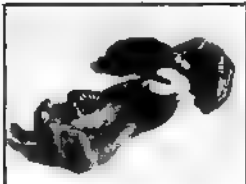
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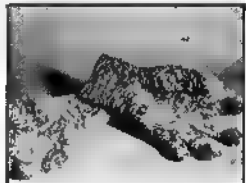
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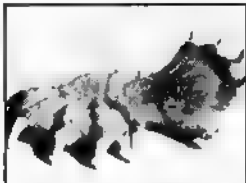
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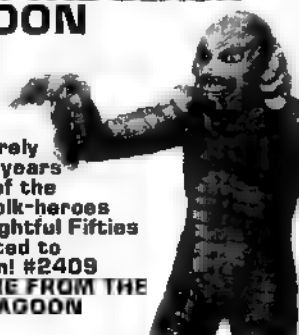
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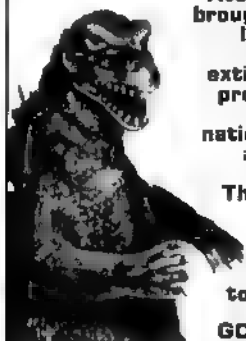
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**VAMPIRE KIT!** Includes evil teeth that glow in the dark, Vampire Blood & disgusting Scar Stuff. #2613 VAMPIRE KIT \$1.50



**FANGY-EVIL TEETH.** Out-sized incisors to tear people's hearts out, chew cuffs, etc. #2614 FANGY-EVIL TEETH 60¢



**SCAR STUFF!** A handy-dandy monster accessory that can be used over & over. Be frightening forever! #2615 SCAR STUFF 75¢



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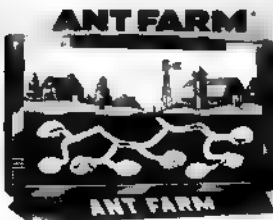


**UGLY KIT!** Glowing red eyeballs, disgusting fangs that glow green in the dark, & Scar Stuff. #2617 UGLY KIT \$1.50

## MAKE THE WHOLE GANG'S SKIN CRAWL!

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See Real Ants Work & Live In Their Fantastic World!



**YOU WON'T BELIEVE** your eyes when you see this fascinating **ANT FARM!** See **WORKER ANTS** dig tunnels, build rooms and carry loads uphill. See **FEEDER ANTS** nourish other ants. See **NURSEMAID ANTS** take care of baby ants. Show your **ANT FARM** to your science teacher, friends, classmates. Let family and visitors share in this amazing nature study. Strongly built of clear plastic. Convenient 6"x9" size. Ant Farm includes farm decorations, stand, soil and sandbar. (Actual Live Ants not included with kit. Ants sent separately by mailing form enclosed with each kit.) Order today! #2612 ANT FARM \$2.98

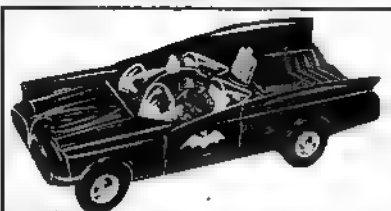
## TURN ON THE GANG WITH THESE SPIFFY SUPER HERO RADIOS!

**Wow!**  
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**BATMAN &  
SUPERMAN**  
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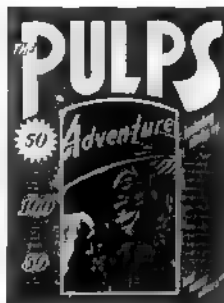
At home, after school, at the beach, anywhere you are, these powerful sound-makers will make you the envy of the gang! Super-heroic is the sound you get from 'em, and admiration is what you earn with them! Each has a handy carry-strap. #2638 SUPERMAN RADIO \$9.95! And #2639 BATMAN RADIO \$9.95!

## BATMOBILE!



Original replica of the famous **BATMOBILE** careens & cruises through the streets of Gotham City with **BATMAN & ROBIN!** Nearly 9 inches long. Bright, colored authentically, double canopied bubble windows, and made of very sturdy plastic. #2640 BATMOBILE \$1.50

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Writing that you can enjoy reading! Fun, fast-paced, action-packed, & 2-fisted! **THE PULPS** is a great book. The great 100 full-color reproductions of old pulp magazine covers are worth the price alone, but there's also 50 stories & epic poems by such authors as: Edgar Rice Burroughs, Ray Bradbury, Dashiell Hammett, Tennessee Williams, H.P. Lovecraft, Max Brand, etc.!!! Art by Finlay, St. John, N.C. Wyeth! **GET IT!** #2147 THE PULPS \$6.95!

## BARGAIN FRANKENSTEIN!



Planning a party and want a great but inexpensive mask to be the Death of the Party with? Here it is, this super budget-priced latex rubber whole-head **FRANKENSTEIN MASK!** Your friends will dig you (and your grave) when they see you in this mask specially designed by Hollywood's Don Post Studios! #2554 FRANKENSTEIN LATEX OVERHEAD MASK \$3.49

**Special Bargain FRANKENSTEIN Whole-head Mask!**

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Be a real highbrow! Get yourself a **FRANKENSTEIN FORE-HEAD!** If you've really craggy features and want people to notice them, compliment them with this Don Post-designed half-headpiece which fits over your forehead & brow! You'll look just like Karloff! #2568 FRANKENSTEIN HALF-HEADPIECE \$4.95



Don Post, demonstrating how to use the FRANKENSTEIN HALF-HEADPIECE

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Livid green sweatshirts & T-shirts in Men & Boys sizes. Washable. They come in Boys Large sizes of 14 & 16, as well as a special adult size of 34-36.

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#2712 "Eat Anything" T-SHIRT, Size 34-36, \$2.98  
#2713 "Eat Anything" SWEAT-SHIRT, Size 14, \$3.98  
#2714 "Eat Anything" SWEAT-SHIRT, Size 16, \$3.98  
#2715 "Eat Anything" SWEAT-SHIRT, Size 34-36, \$4.98

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What's in it for you? Just this: a unique catch culled from the Creepish Cornucopia of Captain Company. Rare and valuable in that they are no longer regularly available. So we've made bundles of them. Each bundle has a retail value of at least \$10.00 in merchandise! Now YOU can have \$10.00 in merchandise for only \$2.98! Yes, \$2.98! You may get books, records, model kits, or a combination of 3! In fact we've two types of Mystery Packages - A REGULAR SURPRISE PACKAGE, and an 8MM FILM PACKAGE. The Film Package offers in addition to kits or books, Horror Films in REGULAR 8mm ONLY (Sorry, we've no Super-8mm Mystery Package yet - but we're working on it!)

#2658, MYSTERY PACKAGE \$2.98  
#2629, MYSTERY 8mm FILM PACKAGE \$2.98

# FANTASTICAL LP RECORD ALBUMS!



Remember the 1960's and HIGH CAMP in Super Heroes? Well, we've managed to get a special limited supply of this rare comedy record, a Rock Super-Hero Suite, suited for the strictly-straight-jacket set! Lots (and acres & parking spaces) of laughs! #2337 COMIC BOOK HEROES \$5.98



BELA LUGOSI in a SUSPENSE radio show from the 1940's, complete version. A definite must for fanatical Lugosi buffs (all legions of you!) as it has a special spoken biographical portrait by Bela's own SON BELA LUGOSI, JUNIOR! Collector's Item, this! #2336 SUSPENSE/LUGOSI \$5.95



Sit back and relax to sounds of the howling wind, rattling chains, scraping fingernails on the insides of coffins, maniacal laughter, and all the other sweatily sweet sounds of a haunted house! Great fun for parties. #2341 SOUNDS TO MAKE YOU SHIVER! \$4.98



Put on your own seance! Put on your friends! Want to be a medium, medium, and hoax folks with a spookshow? This record by Hollywood magician and monster mask master Verne Langdon shows you how! Fiendish fun! #2338 DR DRUID'S HAUNTED SEANCE \$4.49



Two 1940 radio programs, The Oyster Diving episode, and the Black Jacket Episode, wherein Little Annie, and Sandy, and good ol' Daddy win out against the death-dealing evil crooks! And she had the first of all ARF-ro hounds, too! Believe it! #2327 LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE \$5.95



The Celebrated Case of the Firebug Murders. Villain is Hotfoot, who boasts "That's the end of Tracy, boys! We won't hear of him again!" Ha! Even YOU should know better than that, Hotfoot, you seditious heel! Actual old-time radio show. #2332 DICK TRACY \$5.95



VOLUME ONE of two. Jack Benny crawls out of his vault to help you re-live (or may be live for the first time) THE SHADOW, THE LONE RANGER, MA PERKINS, and hilarious FRED ALLEN bits. A musty nostalgic must! #2339 GREAT MOMENTS IN RADIO VOL. 1 \$3.98



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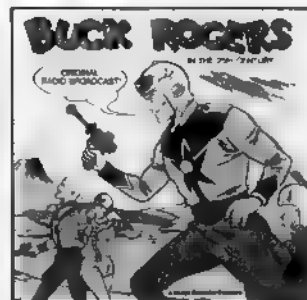
Here's 2 complete radio shows. The Masked Man and trusty Tonto help a meek bank accountant beat a barrelful of bank embezzlers, and then protect the Telegraph Company from the wild Indians. Great action, sound effects, ancient commercials! #2330 THE LONE RANGER \$5.95



Two full radio adventures from 1948! Cap retrieves jewels of the Queen of Sheba and his Secret Squadron fights a lost-landful of cave-men and prehistoric monsters! The old breakfast drink commercials alone are worth the price of the record. #2331 CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT \$5.95



Superman's complete origin story, from old Krypton all the way to the Daily Planet building. Hear him go whoosh through the unpolluted nostalgic air, and help the War Effort by fighting the vile and evil railroad saboteur Good of radio chills, thrills & blunder. #2326 SUPERMAN \$5.95



Futuristic Nostalgia, this! Buck Rogers and his gal, Wilma Deering in the 25th Century, as they fight Black Bart, the arch-villain from Mars, and monkey around with a super-scientific "Gyro-Cosmic-Relativator!" Learn that space ships didn't happen till the 24th Century! Wow! #2329 \$5.95



THE MALTESE FALCON was a jinxed statuette that brought death to thousands, and riches to Dashiell Hammett, and fame to Bogey! Also Bogey in another Hammett yarn, "Love's Lovely Counterfeit." Two super Radio Adaptations from the 1940's. #2334 MALTESE FALCON \$5.95



BORIS KARLOFF! In the greatest evil comedy of all time; Arsenic & Old Lace. Bela Lugosi shines dandy in The Dr. Prescribes Death, a Bendish melodrama, too! A super-bargain MUST for collectors of horror and horrific humor. #2335 ARSENIC AND OLD LACE \$5.95



"Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?" Better believe that Lamont (THE SHADOW) Cranston does, as he takes on a whole coven of evil wizards in the radio adventure, "The Ears of Pan!" A masterpiece of nostalgic 1940's gothic mystery-horror! #2326 THE SHADOW \$5.95



This century's greatest and most-revered super actor, Orson Welles, as THE SHADOW! Telepathically searching down foul diamond thieves who plunder and prey on helpless natives. Added only by Margo Lane & a weird Witch Doctor! #2333 ORSON WELLES/SHADOW \$5.95

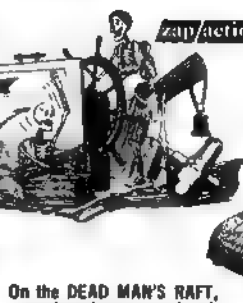
# Pirates of the Caribbean

© Walt Disney Productions

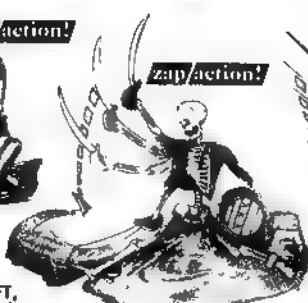
## HORRIFIC UNDEAD SKELETONS MOVE WITH ZAP ACTION



**FATE OF THE MUTINEERS!**—Is quicksand! And a most terrifying fate it is, too! One living pirate skeleton is sinking deeper and deeper into the mire! Can his mate save him? Well, the free walking skeleton tries, and that's where the ZAP-ACTION horror comes in, as before your startled friends' eyes, the free one yanks his friend's arm from its SOCKET! #2454 FATE OF THE MUTINEERS \$2.00



On the DEAD MAN'S RAFT, one clattering cage of calcium steers the cursed raft down the River Styx to the Land of the Dead! It looks like clear sailing all the way, until from out of the coffin pops up a second skeleton, moving with ZAP-ACTION! The second skeleton SLAMS his dagger into a treasure map! A cursed sign from the Great Beyond to resume the foul quest for blood-tainted Doubloons! This realistic, moving horror kit puts you Right There! Order #2452 DEAD MAN'S RAFT \$3.00



**CONDEMNED TO CHAINS FOREVER** is the eternal curse laid upon this marooned bag of bones, left behind on a small isle with but a barrel of rum and his fair share of some ill-gotten treasure. An ironic punishment! And what's worse, all he has is a cutlass to fend off that hungry alligator who's dead-set on using the pirate skeleton's leg-bone for a tooth-pick! So he SWINGS his cutlass down eternally on the gator's snout! #2453 CONDEMNED TO CHAINS FOREVER \$2.00



**"HOIST HIGH THE JOLLY ROGER!"**—shouts zombie-like CAPTAIN VILLAINY himself! With one hand he holds aloft his Jolly Roger pirate emblem flag, the dread skull & crossbones, as with his other arm, he waves his dueling cutlass in ZAP-ACTION derring do! Not even that mutinous & salty skeleton crew will get HIS share of the treasure, you'd better believe! Captain Villainy, you see, heads the whole operation, and orders about his ghostly crew Order #2451 HOIST HIGH THE JOLLY ROGER! \$1.50



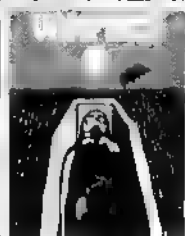
**"DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES!"**—The Great Motto of the bloodthirsty Pirates of the Caribbean in the Salty Sixteenth Century; when the secret burial place of treasure in troves was protected by killing all but one of the men who buried it! Namely the man who did the killing of his mateys! One such boney fiend here spends forever and a day re-enacting that evil moment in his life when he murdered his pirate pals, cockling out the name of this great ZAP-ACTION kit. Order #2450 DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES \$1.50

## BOOKS TO DRIVE A STAKE THRU YOUR LIGHT HEART

### WORKS OF WISDOM TO WRYLY WRAISE YOUR SPIRITS!



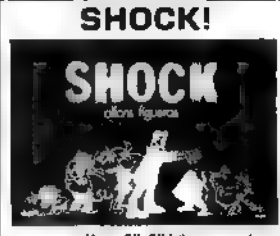
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Everything you ever wanted to know about vampires and vampires, who haunt books, plays, films, love, photos, drawings, comics, and people. All written in a style to make you tickle your ribs with your fangs! 127 pages. #21021 VAMPIRES, \$1.95



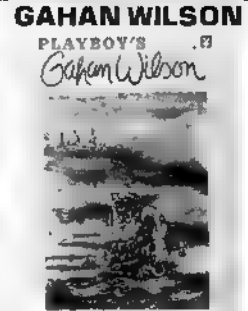
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WILL EISNER, creator of THE SPIRIT, has just applied his genius (& good taste) to all of things: a COOKBOOK! And WHAT a cookbook! Fully illustrated in a clear, understandable, step-by-step style, OCCULT COOKERY shows the novice just how to work culinary magic. Real recipes designed to transform, accurse, seduce, change luck, combat hatred, fight bigotry, cure flat feet! Color cover, 8-1/2" x 11" #21078, OCCULT COOKERY, \$1.95



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INCREDIBLE FACTS! AMAZING STATISTICS! MONUMENTAL TRIVIA! Do you know how much time the average husband & wife spend talking to each other each week? How many pounds of artichokes are consumed annually? Which President's wife smoked a pipe? Zany FACTS to amuse your friends (if you still have any, after preparing "Duck Dracula" from the OCCULT COOKERY Book at left)! This book, like the other, has color cover 64 8-1/2"x11" pages. #21079 \$1.95.

When ordering items, please use Master Coupon, last page of this magazine.

# SENSATIONAL PIN UP POSTERS FOR SALE

If your appetite runs to GIANT SUPER PIN-UP POSTERS, then these are your Meat! For a Main Course, try the Gigantic FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER POSTER at left, drawn as only the great Jack Davis can. This 6-foot beauty is yours for a mere \$1.50! And what an array of other tidbits to choose from! TV PERSONALITIES! SUPER HEROES! MONSTERS! GODDESSES! All other Posters are 3-1/2 by 2-1/2 feet in size, printed on heavy quality paper and many are in Full Color.



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DRAWN BY

*Jack Davis*

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☐ GRAY  
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# THE SPIRIT

CONTINUED FROM  
INSIDE FRONT COVER

We're not spending thousands of dollars just to get out a bi-monthly, misty-eyed package of antique nostalgia. We figure that even if you've never seen THE SPIRIT before, you'll groove on it.



Because Will Eisner's stuff is great. The excitement and inner vitality of THE SPIRIT can never die. THE SPIRIT is an American Classic.

A hundred years from now when they publish a collection of the cartoon masters of the 20th Century, Will Eisner's name will be at the summit. Drawing at the age of seven and cartooning his way through De Witt Clinton High School in New York, Will became a professional with his work in early issues of WOW! and

FAMOUS FUNNIES, two of the earliest comic books. Perhaps you've seen some of his creations... SHEENA, QUEEN OF THE JUNGLE... THE BLACKHAWKS... PLASTIC MAN... UNCLE SAM COMICS.

The bulk and the best of Eisner appeared after World War II in a syndicated comic insert, THE SPIRIT SECTION! A seven-page color comic section distributed to newspapers throughout the country. It promised and delivered Action, Mystery and Adventure. THE SPIRIT provided a theatrical style absolutely second to none, featuring a wide range of moods with a



strange cast of characters and props, a wildly wandering camera view, a fantastic use of light and shade.

In the past THE SPIRIT appeared in comic books, newspaper strips, fanzines, prestige private reprinting and in underground

comics versions. It's been written about by scholars. Studied by cartoonists. Loved by readers.

We think you'll like it. If you're an old SPIRIT fan, enjoy a reunion with the past. If this is your first exposure to THE SPIRIT, even better. Fill out the coupon and mail it today.



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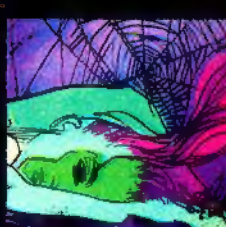
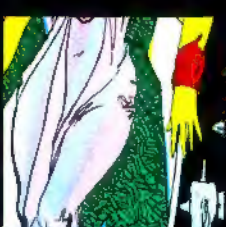
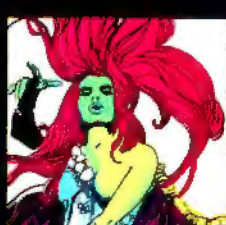
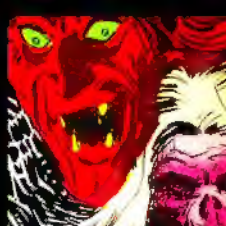
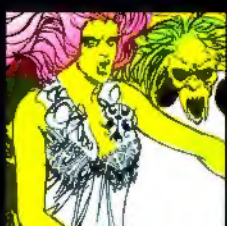
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